

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

DOES HE MEAN IT?

It is well, at the outset of any reasonable agitation, any combined and systematic opposition to a proposed course of legislation, to form a just and clear idea of the danger to be confronted. Some doubt has been expressed as to the sincerity of Sir Robert Peel in respect of his recent declaration in favour of church extension. He is thought by many to have hit upon this expedient for ridding himself of a question forced upon him by the pertinacity of one of his own supporters, and the discussion of which at the present moment is felt to be inconvenient. The speech, in their judgment, exhibits far more of the lubricity of the clever tactician than of the serious designs of the minister. He has managed, they say, to cozen Sir Robert Inglis out of a weapon of offence—has coaxed the obstinate and rigid churchman to resign into his hands what himself could not have wielded without damaging the government even more than it would serve the church—has got the firebrand out of the keeping of a madman into his own, by an artful promise to use it in such manner and at such time as, upon mature deliberation, may seem to him most expedient. The triumph of the Premier, it is fondly imagined, is rather at the expense of the member for Oxford university than at that of dissenters. His language, viewed in the light of a bait for impetuous and wrong-headed ecclesiastics, is clever and appropriate—such as none but an adept in the art of equivocation could have put together; read with a reference to his own intentions, it is vague, misty, and susceptible of just any meaning which the course of events may incline him hereafter to fetch out of it. In short, the minister cannot seriously propose to add to the overwhelming civil burdens of the people a large ecclesiastical one. The design savours but little of Sir Robert Peel's caution, and evinces a pitch of daring far beyond aught which he has commonly displayed.

The duplicity of Sir Robert Peel we admit—nor indeed can we deny that the view given above of his recent declaration *may* be the correct one. We grant that neither is it inconsistent with the character of the man, nor rendered improbable by his position as minister. But we have gone through his speech again and again, and we fairly confess we detect in it no further uncertainty and incompleteness of meaning than may be accounted for by the dignified reserve which her Majesty's government have always regarded as becoming. We are to remember that the language is that of one whose position is so firm that he needs not, as did the whigs, to balance himself on this side and on that, by raising on every hand expectations which he is unable or indisposed to fulfil. He is not in the habit of assenting to abstract propositions until he sees his way clear to a practical development of them. His custom is to leave his principles to be inferred from his acts, rather than to give opportunity to prognosticate his acts from the avowal of his principles. From his first entrance into power he has contrived, by producing a general impression that he would do nothing, to give, by its very unexpectedness, an air of grace to the little which he has done. If this declaration of his be nothing more than a lure to hungry churchmen, the utterance of it stands in marked contrast to his usual policy. Had it referred to the repeal of the corn laws, instead of to church extension, we doubt whether the landed interest would have regarded it as equivocal. What does he say? He gives his assent to the principle of church extension; he admits the necessity for the application of that principle, especially in the more populous districts of the empire; he deprecates being called upon to vote for a motion to which he is friendly, when, as a minister of the crown, he must of necessity be precluded by the proximate close of the parliamentary session from giving effect to a resolution which he has consented to affirm; he pledges himself and the government of which he is the head maturely to consider the subject during the ensuing recess, and to be prepared, at an early period of next session, to state the course which he deems it wisest to adopt; but he refuses to bind himself to any particular *mode* of carrying out the views of his friends. All this, it is true, may be jest; but it looks, to our minds, uncommonly like earnest.

We submit that it hardly becomes dissenters to hang their future interests upon a doubt—to regulate their duty at the present juncture by a conjectural interpretation of the Premier's meaning. Whatever they may opine, it is the part of wisdom for them to be prepared for the worst. They must *act* upon the presumption of Sir Robert Peel's sincerity. The more favourable construction put upon his speech may be nothing more than a mistake—such a mistake as our wishes are very apt to administer as a soothing draught to our fears. It may rather be the distortion of an image by our own minds, than a true reflection of an unquestionable reality. To some men, every object is tinged with pink; to some, all things are shaded with a hue of green. The anomaly in both cases results

from a defect in the organs of vision; for there is nothing external which is found to correspond with the internal impression. Possibly we imagine difficulties in the way of the government, which, in their estimation have no existence whatever; possibly, we suppose a high tone of courage to be necessary, where they discover no cause for the slightest apprehension. Should we mould our conduct to this mistake, we may find ourselves in the predicament of the traveler who, from an unaccountable fancy of his, that lions are frightened at the scent of human beings, thought it superfluous to kindle a fire, and remained unconvinced of error until, one night, the fangs of the lordly monster let in conviction by the same wounds at which life departed. Fancies are harmless things whilst they are no more than fancies. Exalted into practical rules of conduct they are things to be dreaded. The *ignis fatuus* is a pretty phenomenon to look at, but when taken for a guide and followed it becomes the occasion, oftentimes, of a fatal disaster.

It may not be amiss, moreover, for dissenters to bear in mind, that a threatened movement towards a given subject is converted, not seldom, by the absence of opposition, into a real one. We remember, some years since, being told by a guide who was conducting us up Ben Nevis, that a certain duchess (her name is immaterial) set out with a party under a sportive pretence of visiting the summit of that hoary chieftain of highland mountains. She carried on the joke so far and so well, that what at first seemed unattainable appeared within reach. The distance gone over increased at every step; the distance *to be* gone over also diminished. What was undertaken in play was unexpectedly completed in earnest, and the laughing demonstration became a real exploit. She actually gained the summit, and the good-humoured morning boasts of what she would do, were exchanged in the evening for boasts of what she had done. A feint, when it is not parried, often becomes a blow. Had Sir Robert Peel meant nothing when he uttered his ominous threat, dissenting inactivity may tempt him to give a meaning to his own words. His declaration may be a test of the practicability of a scheme which in theory is pleasing enough to his mind. Apathy on the part of dissenters may tempt him to venture where he had no serious intention of going; and, like men besieging a fortress, a show of *escalade*, meeting with no opposition, may induce him to turn it into a reality; and to take the place, against which, as a blind to his own forces merely, he designed to do nothing more than make a hostile demonstration.

Certain it is, that whatever ultimate purposes the Premier may now cherish, his recent avowal will give renewed activity to the movements of ecclesiastics. With a loud shout of anticipatory triumph they will rush to the conflict. His short speech will be like the play of sun-light upon their prospects. They will experience a sudden revival of their energies. From every nook of retirement they will come out, and swarm, and buzz, and make the most of the time allotted them. New views of the spiritual destitution of the country will crowd upon their vision. Deeper impressions of the obligations of a state-church will fill their hearts. Hope will awaken desire; and desire in its turn will enlarge hope. The country will be agitated from end to end for church extension. The land will be inundated with false and pernicious principles. The public will be compelled to breathe throughout the long interval of the recess, the deleterious atmosphere of ecclesiastical bigotry. The pulpits of the establishment will ring with exhortations; and every parish will be agitated on behalf of the church. The clergy will assuredly turn Sir Robert's declaration to account. We earnestly implore dissenters to bethink themselves whereto this incessant activity will tend, and whether the mere truth of our principles will prove, in the end, more than an equivalent for the zeal of churchmen. It matters little whether the prime minister be in earnest or not. In either case, continued sloth will prove to dissenters the sure precursor of ruin.

PAY WITHOUT LABOUR.

In an article published a few weeks back, headed "Ecclesiasticals," we exposed some of the small doings of the state-church; classifying under that head several sources of power and profit, of which that body avail themselves. No one can charge us with founding our opposition to sectarian supremacy upon minor grievances. We have fought the battle on first principles. But these small matters often indicate the spirit by which the church is actuated, better than those of more importance; because it is less easy to "sugar them o'er" with sophisms and specious pretences; and, mindful of this, we scruple not to direct notice to a most palpable instance of clerical greediness.

In the early part of the present session, a committee was appointed to consider the evils and remedies of the interment of bodies in closely populated districts; and amongst the numerous witnesses examined on this important subject, was the Right Reverend Lord

Bishop of London. It is not a little curious to observe the dignified manner in which his lordship advocated the necessity of preserving the small pickings of the establishment, in the following extracts from his evidence. (Report of the committee, p. 185.)

"Feeling, in common with other persons, the necessity of applying some remedy for the evil complained of, I at the same time am interested in the subject for another reason; looking to the interests of the parochial clergy of my own diocese, and to others, but especially of my own, as being involved in the question."

And again—

"In some parishes, as I will shortly prove by instances, a considerable portion of the incumbent's income arises from fees; and whatever measure is adopted with a view to remove the interment of corpses from cities and crowded towns, to cemeteries in the neighbourhood, it will scarcely be possible to prevent considerable loss to the clergy; because, even if you can secure to them the fees to which they now are entitled by law for every corpse which is carried out of their parish to be buried in a cemetery, they will mostly lose the complimentary fees, and what are called the fittings, that is to say, scarves and hatbands, which in some parishes amount to a very considerable sum annually. These are only given, of course, where the clergyman attends in person; and unless he performs the ceremony in person, he cannot expect to receive the complimentary fees."

One hardly knows which to admire most, the dignity or assurance here displayed. What a pity that parliament could not secure to the clergy the gloves, hat-bands, and other undertaker's fittings! We quote a little more of the bishop's evidence, to show how he purposes to provide against these serious losses. In the first cemetery, a fee was reserved which proved totally inadequate; in fact, one of the Bishop's charge suffered a loss of 200*l.* a year by the change. The next cemetery which was opened was at Highgate. The zealous bishop was ill, and the consequence was that the clergy were again losers. The third cemetery was the London and Westminster. At this time the bishop was well and active, and here a fee of 10*s.* was reserved for every corpse, and paid to the clergy of the parish from which it came; and the right rev. prelate adds, "This was considered a fair compensation by the clergy with whom he consulted on the occasion." He did not say whether those who had to pay this bare-faced tax of 10*s.* (besides the additional charge for the longer distance), considered it a fair arrangement; he did not say whether the dissenter, who provides his own minister, considered it fair and honest. In order, however, to appreciate properly the spirit of this divine, we must observe how he demonstrated his regard for the poor: he said he was afraid that these funerals would prove too expensive for the poor, but adds—

"There is, however, no expense so little thought of by the poor as the expense of a funeral. I have known repeated instances where they would deprive themselves of the necessities of life to pay respect to the bodies of their departed friends, and I should be sorry to see this feeling interfered with beyond a certain extent."

In order not to interfere with this laudable feeling he would impose an impost of 10*s.* over and above the legitimate expenses.

The foregoing extracts illustrate the attachment of the clergy to pelf. We shall make one more quotation, to show their confidence in their own principles. Upon this bishop being asked whether he would wish a uniform fee to the clergy from both consecrated and unconsecrated ground, he replied—

"What I wish to avoid is holding out a premium to persons to be buried, being members of the church of England, in unconsecrated ground, where they would not pay the fees usually payable to the clergyman;"

and therefore he was desirous that there should be an uniform rate of charge at the cemetery; in other words, that the dissenter should be compelled to pay as much for the ground, as the churchman pays for the ground and the minister. As the consecration costs a considerable sum, it should in common fairness be charged an additional sum to those who believe in its efficacy. The clergy have opposed the establishment of cemeteries until their opposition has become impotent, and now they wish to get the money without the trouble. So much for ecclesiastical free trade.

Within the last few days a considerable sensation has existed in the populous and extensive parish of St George the Martyr, Southwark, in consequence of summonses to the amount of 1,600 or 1,700 being obtained by the two collectors of the church rate against the parishioners, in consequence of the non-payment of that impost. As proof of the abhorrence with which church rates are held by the great majority of the inhabitants, several of the persons thus summoned were amongst the most respectable.

A vestry meeting of the parish of St Paul's, Covent garden, was held on Thursday evening, in the vestry room, for the purpose of making rates for the current year. After the poor's rate had been passed, Mr Cribb, the churchwarden, asked for a church rate of 9*d.* in the pound, which was seconded by Mr Stannard. Mr Walker proposed as an amendment, that this rate be taken into consideration that day six months; and after some hesitation on the part of the chairman to put the amendment, it was carried amidst loud cheers.

A meeting of rate payers was held at Hackney on Thursday morning in the parish vestry, to pass the late churchwardens' accounts, and make a rate for the ensuing year. The vestry was crowded to excess, many of the most wealthy inhabitants being present. The rector, the Rev. T. O. Goodchild, took the chair. The vestry clerk read the late churchwardens' accounts; upon which Mr Roper, churchwarden, moved, "That the accounts be now passed." Mr Green said he could not consent to pass the accounts of the churchwardens, while they connived at the mal-appropriation of the immense revenue from the churchyard. He should move, as an amendment, "That, without intending any reflection upon the churchwardens, this meeting cannot sanction the accounts just read, containing so many objectionable items, by giving the parish no part of the profits of the churchyard during the present year." S. Sharland, Esq., seconded the amendment, which was carried by 66 to 53. Mr Pulley then read the estimate for the new rate, and Mr Roper moved, "That a rate of 2*d.* in the pound be granted." James Young, Esq. moved, and J. R. Mills,

Esq. seconded an amendment, "That the rate be not granted." Dr Pye Smith supported the amendment, and the Rev. C. J. Heathcote advocated the rate. After a lengthened discussion the amendment was carried by 68 to 48. A poll was demanded by the churchwardens, which closed on Saturday, when the numbers were for the rate, 630; against it, 147. We understand the dissenters made no exertions at the poll, contenting themselves with negating the rate in vestry.

On Friday a vestry meeting of the parish of St Mary Abbott's, Kensington, was held, pursuant to public notice, in the vestry room of the old church, for the purpose of passing the accounts of the churchwardens for the past year, and the making of old and new church rates for the ensuing year. Mr Sheppard (of Kensington square) having been called to the chair, and the notice calling the meeting read, a rate of 1*d.* was proposed, and as an amendment a rate of 1*d.* was moved. On a division the votes were equal, and the chairman gave his vote for the rate of 1*d.* in the pound. A new church rate to the same amount was then carried.

A church rate of 1*d.* in the pound was laid without opposition at Castle Donington, Leicestershire, on Thursday last.

The church party at Bradford, finding there is no chance of obtaining money by means of a church rate, had a meeting last week, at which it was resolved to raise a subscription, for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in the maintenance of religious worship in the parish church.

In the epistle from the yearly meeting of the Society of Friends, held in May, it is stated that the account of the suffering of the friends in the maintenance of their testimony against all ecclesiastical demands, including the cost and charges of distraint, is upwards of £10,800.

It is very confidently stated that Archdeacon Packenham, brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington, will be the new bishop of Meath.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PROPER SPHERE OF GOVERNMENT. LETTER IV.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—My last letter, entering as it did rather deeply into the poor-law question, might almost be considered by some of your readers as a digression from the ostensible object of this essay, although a very necessary one to the establishment of the principle I am advocating. I must now, however, still further trespass upon their patience, whilst I endeavour to answer the query proposed to me, "Has not every man a right to a maintenance out of the soil?" for this, after all, is the pith of the question submitted. Before proceeding, however, it may be observed that the burden of proof falls rather on the party who assert the right, than on those who deny it. The proposer of a proposition is required to demonstrate its truth; not his opponent to show its fallacy.

Man has a claim to a subsistence derived from the soil. It is his natural birth-right—the charter given to him at his creation; and whoever, by iniquitous laws, oppressive taxation, or any other means, puts difficulties in the way of his obtaining that subsistence, is infringing that right. But, the right is conditional—the produce is only promised to him in return for the labour he bestows upon the soil; if that condition is not fulfilled the right has no existence. Now the poor law principle recognises this right as independent of that condition; it acknowledges the claim to a share in the produce, but demands no equivalent labour. "Yes," it will be replied, "and for a very good reason; because there is no direction in which that labour can be profitably employed." I admit the truth of this reply. We have a corn law—we have a national debt—we have an established church—we have a variety of institutions whereby the fruits of the industry of the poor are poured into the pockets of the rich—and we have, as one of the consequences, a dearth of employment. But is this a natural state of things? Are these evils irremediable? Is this want of a field for labour the inevitable result of the constitution of the world? No, it is the result of selfish legislation. We know that were we righteously governed we should hear no cry for employment. Every man would find something for his hand to do, and the promised sustenance would flow abundantly from his labour. What, then, is our duty? Ought we, because some of our fellow-men have, in the wantonness of their power, made arrangements whereby a great part of the people are prevented from earning their bread by the sweat of their brow—ought we, I ask, calmly to submit, and give the subsistence without the labour? Ought we not rather to destroy the laws that have given birth to this state of things—to restore the healthy action of society, and thus to allow the fulfilment of the promise by obedience to its accompanying commandment? The Almighty has given to man a privilege to be enjoyed after obeying a certain condition: a human power steps in, and renders obedience to that condition impossible: ought we to grant the privilege without any attention to the condition? or ought we to take away the obstacles which prevent us from satisfying it? The answer is plain. We come, then, to the conclusion that the unconditional right to a maintenance out of the soil is inconsistent with one of the fundamental principles of the Christian religion.

Again, it may be said that though employment be ever so abundant, and society in its most prosperous state, there will still be numerous cases of distress and destitution. Granted; but what follows? In nine cases out of ten that distress results from the transgression of the individual or his parents: and are we to take away the just punishment of those transgressions? Are we not told that the sins of the wicked shall be visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation? That visitation may either exhibit itself in mental derangement, bodily disease, or temporal want. The parent may either transmit to the child bad moral tendencies, or a constitutional taint, or may leave him in circumstances of great misery. The visitation may comprehend any or all of these. But the poor law steps in and says, "As far as I can, I will annul this law. However great may have been your misconduct, or that of your parents—notwithstanding your destitution may have resulted solely from that misconduct, now that you are in distress you have a just claim upon the property of your fellow-creatures, and I will relieve you." In doing this it not only takes away the punishment, but it also destroys the most powerful incentive to reformation. Adversity is, in many cases, the only efficient school for the transgressor. Perhaps it may be asked, where is the justice, or the advantage, of allowing the child to endure the temporal want resulting from the sins of its parents? There is an advantage, and a great one: the same tendency to immorality which characterised the parent is bequeathed to the offspring—the moral disease requires a cure—under a healthy social condition that cure will be found in the poverty which has followed in its train. The malady provides its own remedy—the poor-law right prevents that remedy from being administered. Let not this be misunderstood; it has no reference to the present distresses of the poor; it only applies to the few cases of individual destitution which would occur in a well-governed country.

A natural right may, usually, be easily defined. Its boundaries spring

naturally out of the conditions. But it is not so with the poor-law principle. It says that every man has a right to a maintenance out of the soil. But what is a maintenance? One party says that a bare subsistence is all that is implied. Another that the applicant can demand all the comforts usually enjoyed by those in his station. Another that he may as fairly claim the luxuries of life as those above him. And the extreme party will be content with nothing short of the socialist principle, of community of property. Who is to say which of those is the true expression of the right? The gradations are infinite, and who can decide where the claim begins and where it ends? Who can tell the rate payer how much of his property can be justly demanded by his fellow-creature? Who can tell the pauper when he asks for more pay, that he receives just as much as he is entitled to? or can explain to him, why he has a right to what he already receives, but no right to anything more? And yet, if this were really a right, ought it not to be capable of such a definition.

Suppose we assume, for a moment, that property is a conventionalism; that its existence is injurious to those excluded from its enjoyment; and that they have consequently a claim upon those possessing it. The poor law is proposed as the means of satisfying that claim. But it is argued that voluntary charity will be more efficient; and if so, why should it not be substituted? Instead of leaving the government to determine the amount of recompense, why not let every man decide for himself? Why appeal to the state conscience, rather than to the conscience of each individual?

HERBERT SPENCER.

[We have not room for the whole of the letter in our present number; it will be continued in the next.]

NOTTINGHAM ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Mr Roebuck's report having been presented, we are led to expect the writ will be issued in a few days. I have the liveliest recollection of the sympathy our struggle met with from friends in all parts of the country, and would once more enlist their interest in a contest which belongs to us less than it belongs to the cause of humanity. We are not insensible to the honour which has fallen to us; nor do we undervalue the importance of the stake at issue. I have the most sanguine hopes that our efforts will be successful, and that the cause of purity of election and popular representation will triumph in the return of Joseph Sturge.

I am fully sensible that much of the enthusiasm produced in the recent excitement, arose from the consciousness that we were involved in a national struggle, and that the country were looking anxiously on for the first successful death-blow to faction. The addresses which poured in from all quarters, breathing such generous sympathy and elevated patriotism, had their due and proper influence upon our exertions, and tended considerably to sustain our energies.

We have a desperate struggle before us; we have to encounter a corrupt faction, dead to all sentiments of honour, insensible to every feeling of patriotism. We have a bad party, exasperated by recent defeat and self-sought exposure, seeking again to procure our suffrages. We cannot forget what they have done to prostitute the morals of our constituency, and therefore ask the public to decide betwixt Mr Walter of the tory Times, and Joseph Sturge, the man of the people.

As soon as the writ is issued, I hope our friends will be active in every part of the empire. It is true they cannot assist us at the poll; but they can, by the expression of their interest in our cause, stimulate us on to discharge our duty. Remember, the contest is of no ordinary character. If ever principle was involved, it is now. If ever there was a triumph worth obtaining, it is this. If we return a man so amiable as Joseph Sturge, as the representative for Nottingham, there is an example for every constituency in the nation; and our moral victory will bring incalculable benefits in its train.

Nottingham.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

THOS. BEGGS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Church rates, for abolition of, 1.	Maynooth college, against further grant, 3.
Corn laws, for repeal of, 5.	— for inquiry, 2.
Distress, for inquiry into, 3.	Political offenders, for free pardon, 2.
Factories, for limiting hours of labour, 6.	Poor Law Amendment bill, against, 22.
Medical profession, for reform, 3.	Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 1.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILL PRESENTED, AND READ A FIRST TIME.
Bankruptcy Law Amendment bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Customs Acts Amendment bill.	4. Exchequer Bills Preparation bill.
2. Stamp Duties bill.	5. Joint Stock Banking Companies bill.
3. Assessed Taxes (No. 2) bill.	

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Poor Law Amendment bill.	3. Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) bill.
2. South Australia bill.	
4. Supply—£8,292, Foundling hospital; £14,251, house of industry, &c.; £1,000, Female Orphan house; £2,500, Westmorland Lock hospital; £1,000, Lying-in hospital; £1,500, Dr Steeven's hospital; £3,800, Fever hospital, Cork street; £500, hospital for incurables; £8,928, Roman catholic college; £300, Royal Irish academy; £300, Royal Hibernian academy; £700, commissioners of charitable donations; £1,950, Royal Belfast academical institution; £17,345, public buildings; £10,900, Royal Dublin society; £23,463, department of Chief Secretary; £12,434, Lord-lieutenant of Ireland; £4,819, Paymaster Civil Services in Ireland; £3,950 proclamations in Ireland; £35,630, protestant dissenting ministers in Ireland; £90,000, criminal prosecutions in Ireland; £35,000, police of Dublin; £2,714, board of Public Works in Ireland; £5,000, town-land survey of Ireland; £13,000, Shannon commission; £3,500, census of population of Ireland; £50,000, Caledonian canal; £10,300, Parkhurst prison; £1,936, hall for the General Assembly at Edinburgh; £32,300, coinage and works at the Mint; £1,430, pictures for the National gallery; £6,300, Sir Francis Chantrey's equestrian statue of George the Fourth; £60,000, officers employed on the coast of Syria; £1,600, Mr Goldsworthy Gurney, for his services in lighting the house; £159,545, for disembodied militia.	
5. Customs Acts Amendment bill.	9. Designs Copyright bill.
6. Stamp Duties bill.	10. Ordnance Services bill.
7. Exchequer Bills Preparation bill.	11. Court of Exchequer bill.
8. Bonded Corn (No. 2) bill.	12. Lunacy bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

1. Prisons bill.	4. Exchequer Bills Preparation bill.
2. Election Petitions Trial bill.	5. Stamp Duties bill.
3. Customs Acts Amendment bill.	

MOTIONS.

Poor Law Amendment bill—Order for committee read; motion made and question put, "That it be an instruction to the committee, that they have power to make provision, that the commissioners may order relief to be administered to the poor in Ireland on the terms of the out-door labour test."—(Mr Sharman Crawford.) The House divided; ayes 11, noes 112. Motion made and question proposed, "That Mr Speaker do now leave the chair:" amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "a rise of wages," and "increased content of the labourers and diminution of crime," were two of the specific effects which the report of the commission, dated the 20th day of February, 1834, stated would follow the application of their principle of administering relief to the indigent by the agency of a central board of control: that this bill be proceeded with no further, until it be ascertained by inquiry of this House, that there had been, since the Poor Law Amendment act

came into operation, a rise of the wages of labour, increased contentment among the labouring people, and a diminution of crime; and also, that, if a rise in the rate of wages have taken place, it has been to such an extent as to give the able-bodied labouring man, with a wife and family, an equivalent for the parochial assistance afforded to him before the passing of that act: That it is desirable that such inquiry should be satisfactory and conclusive, and that it should command the confidence of the country, and that, therefore, none but labourers and employers be examined," instead thereof:—(Mr John Fielden:) question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question." The House divided; ayes 125, noes 8: main question put and agreed to.

Distress (manufacturing districts)—Motion made and question proposed, "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, to represent to her Majesty, that the distress in the manufacturing districts, to which her Majesty was pleased to allude in her Majesty's most gracious speech at the commencement of the present session, 'as having been borne with exemplary patience and fortitude,' continues unabated; and that the sufferings and privations resulting therefrom, are rapidly extending from the working to the middle classes of society; that none of the measures hitherto proposed by her Majesty's government to parliament, however just the principles upon which some of them have been founded, appear adequate to afford a timely and sufficient remedy for these great and pressing evils; and that her Majesty's government cannot, without the aid of parliament, take such further steps as may be necessary for that purpose; and further to represent to her Majesty an anxious hope, that if, after the termination of the present session, no decisive improvement should take place in the condition of her Majesty's suffering and loyal subjects, her Majesty may be pleased again, at an early period, to call parliament together, with a view of giving fuller effect to those sound principles of commerce which, if fairly and impartially carried out, more especially as regards the food of the people, would, by giving an impulse to trade and industry, avert those calamities which the inclemency of winter, superadded to want and destitution, must inevitably produce:"—(Mr Thomas Duncombe.) The House divided; ayes 91, noes 147.

SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATIONS.

ELECTION PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE.—Mr Roebuck gave notice on Wednesday evening that he should on Thursday (to-morrow), bring under the consideration of the House a series of resolutions founded on the report of the Election Proceedings committee. He should not then state what those resolutions would be, because hon. members had not yet read the report and the evidence; but he would state the nature of those resolutions before he introduced them to the House.

LEGAL IMPROVEMENTS.—On Thursday evening, in answer to a question from Mr Hawes, the Solicitor-general stated that he hoped to be able to proceed with the Local Courts bill this session, and that he expected to bring on the Bankruptcy bill next week.

BOUNDARY QUESTION.—On the same evening, in answer to a question from Lord Palmerston, Sir Robert Peel said the report on the North American boundary question was now being printed.

NOTTINGHAM WRIT.—On Friday Mr Sharman Crawford presented a petition from 1000 electors of Nottingham, praying that a new writ might be immediately issued, and gave notice that he should move for the same on Thursday (to-morrow).

EDUCATION.—On Monday, in reply to a question by Lord Palmerston, it was intimated by Sir Robert Peel, that a supplementary grant of £10,000 is to be proposed, in addition to the usual education grant of £30,000.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, July 20.

BONDED CORN BILL.

Mr GLADSTONE moved the second reading of the Bonded Corn bill, and stated at some length the objects of the bill, which is to permit the grinding of foreign corn in bond—a permission which he argued could not by any possibility affect the interests of home agriculture, while it would, in fact, create a new kind of trade, and beneficially extend our commerce, by giving additional employment to our millers, and enabling merchants to export profitably. The apprehensions with which the measure had been hitherto regarded were altogether groundless.

Colonel RUSHBROOK moved, and Mr TROTTER seconded an amendment that it be read a second time that day three months.

Mr PALMER and Mr DARBY opposed the bill, and Mr HUTT, Mr GILL and Lord PALMERSTON supported it.

Mr ROEBUCK contended that every argument advanced for this bill told against the recent corn law; and he was proceeding to prove the assertion, when he was met by noisy interruptions.

The present bill was a sort of "feeler." As regarded its immediate results it was pitifully paltry. (An ironical "hear.") But it was important as an exposition of the weakness of the government, and the selfishness of the "agricultural," i. e. the landlord "interest." "Down with everything, but up with the rents!" was the true motto of the real English country gentleman. ("Oh! oh!") He cared not for the petty popinjays (ironical cries of "hear, hear") who might cry "Oh," anxious to "divide," and to dine. The arguments of the right hon. gentleman (Mr Gladstone) in favour of the bill, were merely roundabout arguments for free trade in general, which the ministry shrank from boldly carrying out. The landlords, however, who supported them were more alarmed at the idea of losing a halfpenny or a farthing per pound of their rents than at the starvation of millions.

Sir T. ACLAND denied Mr Roebuck's imputations, and Mr HUMPHREY defended them. After a few words from Colonel SIBTHORP, the House divided, when there appeared, for the second reading 116, against it 29.

POOR LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

The report of the Poor Law Amendment bill being brought up, Mr ESCOTT moved an additional clause for empowering guardians to grant out-door relief at their discretion. Some such measure was the more necessary, because the House had now agreed to prolong the commission without controlling it by any of the proposed clauses of mitigation. He did not accurately know what constituted the principle of the present poor law; but if it consisted in the refusal of all relief to the poor, except upon condition of their receiving it in a workhouse, then he was adverse to it. The prohibition of out-door relief was not an enactment, it was only a regulation of the commissioners; and he thought it was one too stringent to be properly passed by any authority less than that of parliament itself.

What was the effect of it? A hard-working, striving, industrious man, with a wife and family, would be told, when he wanted relief, that he was able-bodied, and therefore, under this prohibitory order, he had no right to relief unless he entered the house. That was the general principle. Now, he could state that he knew whole parishes in which every workman had ceased to be able-bodied under the operation of the prohibitory order. He could state from his own knowledge, that many a poor and industrious working man, rather than go into the house, rather than leave his wife and children, rather than see his little cottage goods sold, rather than leave that which was his home, and to which he was attached, and become an inmate of the workhouse, had gone on working upon those wages which were inadequate to afford him sufficient support. By these means industrious men had been brought down to a weak and low state of health, so that, though they might not be suffering acute disease, they were far from being able to do a day's work, and when overtaken by disease, they very soon fell victims to it and their previous hard living.

Nor were the rates lowered by this system, so great was the cost of the workhouses. His proposal did not interfere with the discretion of the commissioners; it would operate only where the commissioners

could exercise no discretion at all. The present law worked well, no doubt, in particular districts; but this was because, in those districts, the guardians actually did what he now wanted to give them the legal power of doing—they exercised a discretion of relieving the poor man at his own home. The statute of Elizabeth, indeed, annexed a condition to relief; but instead of obliging the poor, as the present law did, to traverse unions of 30 miles long, it relieved each man in his own parish; and he believed the greatest boon which could be given, both to the rate payers and the poor, would be to restore that statute, clear from all the enactments by which it had been impaired.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said that it was quite a mistake to suppose that out-door relief was prohibited; the guardians had discretionary power to administer it in cases of sickness or distress. He quoted returns for the last three years, to prove this; the numbers of those relieved within the workhouse during those years (1839 to 1841) bore no proportion to the numbers relieved out of it—a fact which was still further illustrated by the figures exhibiting the proportions of the rates expended in relief within and without the workhouse. He argued strongly against the adoption of Mr Escott's clause, as calculated to revive all the old evils, without producing any counteracting benefits.

After a short debate the clause was rejected, by a majority of 90 to 55.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into a committee of supply. On the grant for Maynooth college, Mr PLUMPTRE objected to it on the ground of the inconsistency of a protestant country supporting an institution where doctrines were taught opposed to the established church. After some observations from Lord CLEMENTS, in support of the grant, and from Mr BATESON, in opposition to it, Mr HAWES declared that the principle put forward by Mr Plumtre, that of conscientious objection, was subversive of all grants for any establishment whatever. Mr A. B. COCHRANE was opposed to the grant, but thought that if such a grant were made, it ought to be much larger, in order to be effective for its purpose. Sir G. H. SMITH and Colonel VERNER, strongly opposed the grant. Lord JOCELYN supported the grant, considering the faith of this country to be pledged. Lord ELIOT lamented the revival of such a discussion as this, partaking, as it must do, of a theological character. He strongly condemned the indiscriminate attacks made on the Roman catholic system of education. Mr O'CONNELL felt it to be vexatious that this paltry grant should be made the vehicle of every slanderous attack. He was opposed, on principle, to permitting one set of Christians to contribute to the support of another—a principle which he would apply equally to catholics and protestants. He flung off with contempt and scorn the calumnies brought against his faith, and regretted he was precluded, under the circumstances, from voting against the grant. On a division, the grant was affirmed by 95 to 48. Some other votes were then agreed to, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, July 21.

DISTRESS OF THE COUNTRY.

Mr DUNCOMBE rose to bring forward his motion with respect to the state of the country. He complained that if he had not exerted himself to get together a sufficient number of members there would have been "no House" to attend to this subject. He defended himself and his friends against the charge of factious obstruction; and, for proof of their forbearance, appealed to the course he had now taken, of making his motion on a Thursday, instead of delaying the estimates by making it on any of the days applicable to supply. He wanted to know what the members for the manufacturing districts, on returning home, were to say to their constituents about the intentions of government in reference to the existing distress?

Unless they got some assurance that evening, they must say, "I can give you no consolation; I suppose parliament will not meet again before February." They had a right, then, to know from any cabinet minister what remedy they had to offer. Agricultural members had a very good answer to give to their constituents. They might say, "We passed the Corn bill, which, as the hon. member for Berkshire told his constituents, it was all a delusion to suppose would diminish the protection of the agriculturists." If anything, it would only perpetuate that extortion from the people. He should like to know whether the right hon. baronet the member for Kent would recommend the New Poor law, which last year he pronounced to be so arbitrary and unconstitutional. Would the right hon. baronet the Home Secretary call out the police and the yeomanry?—or would he rely on a posse of magistrates acting, as the Staffordshire magistrates acted the other day, when the people, who met to discuss their grievances, were put down and cast into prison? He did not see the right hon. Secretary at War in his place, but was the bayonet to be his specific? The Chancellor of the Exchequer would, in all probability "leave things alone." And then they knew what the right hon. baronet himself had done. He had given them the Corn bill, the income tax, and the tariff. Already were the commissioners under the income-tax measure—those locusts—those filthy creatures—at their dirty work. Persons found their dividends stopped; but where was the compensation the right hon. baronet had promised from the tariff? The income tax was retrospective, but all the benefits of the tariff were certainly very remote.

He proceeded to read numerous accounts from different persons, showing the intensity and extent of the present distress, and danger of an outbreak among the work-people. Hopes had been held out of an early and abundant harvest.

The *Mark Lane Express* had recently stated, that though, from many causes, productiveness might be expected, yet that the harvest would not be an average one. Would a full harvest, however, give the people, by employment, the means of purchasing corn, however plentiful? Let parliament do all that lay in its power to alleviate the distress; and if the attempts were not entirely successful, there would, at least, be the satisfaction of having done all that could be done for the sake of an industrious and patient people, to whose hard-working energies and peaceful endurance we owed all that constituted property, or made society valuable.

Mr BROTHERTON and Mr WARD rose to second the motion, but the former gave way to Mr Ward, who declared his conviction that the proposal before them was constitutional, politic, and humane. What the country wanted was a change of system—that the government should effectively carry out the principles which they had avowed, and partially acted on. They ought to give a pledge to the country that they were prepared to apply those principles to the great articles of consumption, and thus to retrieve the present frightful state of affairs. He read a letter from an inhabitant of Sheffield, describing in affecting terms the condition of that once flourishing town, the most skilful mechanics of which were emigrating to Russia and America; and concluded with expressing a hope that government would not oppose the motion.

Mr D'ISRAELI opposed the motion. He admitted the distress of the country, but attributed it, not to agricultural policy, but to anti-commercial diplomacy, which had driven the commerce of England from the markets of the continent. The policy of Lord Palmerston in not making commercial treaties with France, had increased the difficulty of their position.

Mr EWART supported the motion, and said it was the duty of the legislature to give the people employment, by opening for them the American market. Even if the present distress were to prove but temporary, still it would be criminal on the part of a prime minister of the country not to take some steps for the permanent improvement of the condition of the people.

Mr BROTHERTON bore testimony to the magnitude of the distress, and read a requisition he had received, signed by the Boroughreeve and other authorities of Salford, requesting him to join in stopping the supplies. He believed the great cause of the distress was the excessive and unequal taxation, aggravated by those unjust monopolies which raised the price of food, increased rents, and lowered wages; and there was neither relief nor safety for this country without the application of those principles of free trade which would enable us to compete with foreigners.

Mr RICARDO supported the motion, and called upon ministers to reply to the various statements which had been made.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said he had never denied the existence of great distress; but contended that the statements from particular districts were not fair criterions of the state of the country at large. Mr Duncombe had brought his motion forward in a fair enough way, but it was only a peg for a renewed discussion on an exhausted subject—the repeal of the corn laws. The time of calling parliament together was a matter which should be left to the discretion of the responsible advisers of the Crown.

It was the duty of the executive government, if, after the prorogation of parliament, they considered the necessities of the state required the intervention of the legislature and the presence of the representative assembly, to advise the Sovereign to re-assemble parliament, and they were responsible for the recommendation of such a measure. This was the constitutional mode of proceeding; and he thought it would be unwise and impolitic if parliament, by its vote, gave any pledge on the subject. The constitution left the responsibility of such a measure in the hands of the advisers of the Crown. The government had brought forward all the measures which they thought it expedient to propose for relieving the distresses of the country, and it was admitted that fair and sufficient time had not yet been afforded for ascertaining the operation of those measures. The hon. gentleman required the House to give a pledge that, if these measures were found ineffectual and insufficient, parliament should be again assembled at a very early period. He conceived that such a pledge was superfluous, unconstitutional, and inexpedient; and he had, therefore, no hesitation in giving a decided negative to the motion of the hon. gentleman.

Mr HAWES said the question of the corn laws would continue to be discussed both in and out of parliament, until they were settled on a fair and just basis. The loss of foreign commerce was not to be attributed to the non-completion of treaties, but to the refusal to take valuable equivalents, such as corn and timber, in exchange for our manufactures. The present corn law was a mere makeshift, which must give way to public opinion: and, for himself, he would seize every opportunity of bringing the subject before the public.

Mr MARK PHILIPS believed the tariff would do little towards relieving the distresses of the working classes; and there was yet no prospect of an improvement of trade, at least in Manchester, and the only remedy for the distress would be a demand for employment. He warned the House against leaving the great question of the corn laws unsettled in the present state and temper of the country.

After a few words from Mr WODEHOUSE, Mr PARKER, and Mr THORNLEY, Sir R. PEEL rose, and argued the necessity of the income tax and the important benefits of the tariff in his usual strain. He then justified himself in refusing to receive certain deputations.

I do attempt to devote all the time I possibly can to the public service (a cheer from all parts of the house). Nine hours at least during the sitting of parliament are required for attendance in this house. The applications from deputations are very numerous: and, on the other hand, there are public duties required of a minister out of the walls of parliament of a most onerous and important nature. Therefore, the representatives or deputations of the people must not attribute it to disrespect or to any indifference to the sufferings of those whom they represent, if, when they seek interviews, it is utterly impossible for public men to reconcile the performance of their duties in this house and elsewhere with the general reception of all deputations that may apply to them for audience. I must say, too, that in deputations there is rather a disposition to forget the objects with which the interview is originally accorded, and that, instead of confining themselves to the statement of useful facts, they are apt to avail themselves of those interviews as affording opportunities for oratorical display. To simple statements of facts I am always disposed to listen with patience, but of mere declamation we all hear so much in the House of Commons, that gentlemen must not be surprised if I sometimes am disposed to turn rather an unwilling ear to it when coming from those (I speak it not in disrespect of either their powers or intentions) who are somewhat disposed to abuse the privilege of a deputation, to travel from the facts of the case, and to indulge in oratorical displays.

He admitted the existence of great distress, but believed it had been overstated; and he quoted various returns to prove that things were improving, which he believed was the fact.

It is not very probable that any substantial improvement in prices can take place until, by the result of a good harvest or by a change of the corn law, the great bulk of the working classes of the country, whose entire earnings are now absorbed in the purchase of food, shall be enabled to procure those supplies of clothing of which they stand so much in need [loud cheers from the opposition benches]. I understand that cheer, and I can only say that I should feel it unfair to repress that passage, and I refer to the whole article with the greater satisfaction, because it shows, upon the testimony of a disinterested witness, that a great improvement has taken place [loud cheers from the ministerial benches]. Coming as it does from a quarter which would altogether repeal the corn laws, it is gratifying to find a candid admission made that the improvement spoken of a week previously continues from the last week up to the present. I am ready to admit that these statements furnish grounds too slight for confidence in the future; but I refer to them to show that it is probable the extreme point of depression has arrived, and that having passed, we may, without indulging a too sanguine hope, expect that better times will shortly arrive.

He considered that the essence of the motion before them was neither more nor less than that a pledge should be given by the House that at an early period the corn laws should be repealed, and to such a motion he would not lend a moment's sanction. The responsibility of bringing parliament together should be left with the executive government; any minister who believed that parliament could relieve the distress, and neglected to advise the crown to summon it, would be guilty of a gross abandonment of duty.

Lord PALMERSTON vindicated the commercial policy of the late government. No less than thirty-two commercial treaties had been concluded with foreign nations between 1831 and 1841. He hoped the House would agree to the motion of the honourable member for Finsbury. He wished the legislature to show a sympathy with the distress of the people.

Mr HUME moved that the debate be adjourned. On that motion being put from the chair, Sir R. PEEL expressed a hope that the House would come to a division that night. Mr MILNER GIBSON said the question had not been half discussed, and he should therefore bring the subject forward again on the next night of going into a committee of supply. Mr CORBEN said he was determined this important question should be fully discussed. Mr HUME then withdrew his motion for adjourning the debate, and after a short discussion the House di-

vided—for the motion, 91; against it, 147; majority against the motion, 56.

Friday, July 22.

POOR LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Sir J. GRAHAM moved the third reading of the Poor Law bill. Mr SHARMAN CRAWFORD opposed it in an able speech, and moved as an amendment that the bill be read a third time that day three months. Mr FIELDEN seconded the amendment. A discussion of some length ensued which, however, presented no new feature; and the House divided, and the bill was read a third time by a majority of 103 to 30.

Mr D. ACLAND proposed a clause as a rider to the bill, to empower the guardians to appoint local committees to receive application from persons living at a distance from the place of meeting of the Board of Guardians. Sir CHARLES NAPIER and Captain PECHELL supported the clause. After a short discussion, Sir J. GRAHAM assented to the addition of the clause to the bill.

On the motion that the bill do pass, Mr FIELDEN moved, as an amendment, that the bill be printed with a view to its being re-committed. The House divided—for the original motion, 83; for the amendment, 5; majority, 78. The bill then passed.

SUPPLY.

The motion for the House to go into a committee of supply was then made; when the subject of the distress was again brought forward, and a debate ensued of a similar nature to the one on the previous evening, on Mr Duncombe's motion. Mr GIBSON rose and moved, as an amendment, that the House resolve itself into committee to take into consideration the distressed state of the country. He contended that the distress was great and appalling, and read extracts to show the falling off which had taken place in the sale of the various necessities of life in Manchester during the past year, in support of his statement. He denied that there was any indication of returning prosperity, and said there never would be any until the corn monopoly was abolished. The days of that monopoly were, however, numbered; it would not long survive the present crisis. There never was a more opportune season than the present for inquiring into the existing distress. If ministers prorogued parliament without doing something to relieve the distress which prevailed, a fearful responsibility would rest with them.

Dr BOWRING seconded the amendment, and said the only remedy for alleviating the distress which existed, was to throw open the markets of the world for British enterprise.

Captain BERKELEY and Sir JOHN EASTHOPE supported the amendment, as did Mr HUME and Mr FIELDEN. It was opposed by Sir CHARLES BURRELL.

Mr VILLIERS complained of the general silence of the ministerial party, which he imputed to their consciousness of the injustice of their cause. All their promises and professions had broken down and been falsified. Public opinion was with them no longer; the working classes were now awakened to a sense of the fraud which had been practised on the nation, and the rent receivers had lost their power. The opposition might be censured for their pertinacity in these debates; but their justification was, that every fresh discussion produced some fresh advantage. He wanted to see the people well fed and well educated, and then they might be safely trusted with political power.

Mr MUNTZ and Mr M. PHILLIPS supported the amendment. Mr COBDEN moved the adjournment of the debate, and the House divided, when there appeared—for the motion, 33; against it, 188.

Mr HINDLEY immediately repeated the motion for adjournment, alleging as his reason the insult offered to the House by the silence of ministers.

This called up Sir R. PEEL, who complained that he was treated very unfairly. He was constant in his attendance, and listened with attention and patience to all that was urged in every debate; he had spoken, as the organ of the government, in the debate of the previous evening; and the debate of the present evening was practically only an adjournment of it. He could not, therefore, be accused of disrespect in not speaking on the motion of Mr Milner Gibson. He looked upon this continued resistance to the declared will of the majority as a fatal blow to the authority of the House.

After a few words from Messrs EWART, COBDEN, and HAWES, Mr COWPER supported the motion for adjournment. Mr FIELDEN said the people were starving, and if government could not propose a remedy, he would not consent to vote a shilling of the public money in supply. Mr DUNCOMBE thought the right hon. baronet had made an explanation which ought to be received by the House. Mr COBDEN contended that the country had a right to look to the right hon. baronet for relief. The House then divided, when the motion for going into committee was carried by a majority of 156 to 64 votes. The House went into committee *pro forma* and immediately resumed, and then adjourned.

Monday, July 25.

THE CHARTISTS.

On the motion for a committee of supply, Mr DUNCOMBE called the attention of the House to the case of John Mason, a chartist lecturer, and others, committed for trial at the late Midsummer assizes of the county of Stafford. He stated that the man had been apprehended and tried on the interference of an officious constable, who had interrupted what he considered to be an unlawful meeting. He moved for a copy of the commitment, &c.

Mr HUME seconded the motion.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM vindicated the conduct of the parties concerned in the apprehension and prosecution of the prisoners, and who had carried on the case without any communication with the government. He strongly objected to the motion, not being disposed to convert the House into a court of review of trial by jury.

Mr EDWARD BULLER took the same view of the case.

Mr AGLIONBY totally dissented from the doctrine that such questions as the present were improper for discussion in that house. He thought it right, on the contrary, that in all cases concerning the liberty of the subject that House should be a supreme court of appeal. He did not mean that every member would be justified in bringing such questions before the House for any frivolous cause, but the present was a case of doubt and suspicion, as the only evidence on which those men were convicted was that of the constable, who put his own construction on the language made use of. He dissented from the right hon. baronet's description of an unlawful meeting. To constitute an unlaw-

ful meeting, and to render interference justifiable, it was necessary that the meeting should, in consequence of being armed, or by its violence, or some such cause, occasion a belief in the minds of reasonable people that a breach of the peace would ensue. In this case no breach of the peace was committed until the constable interfered; and he (Mr Aglionby) denied that this single constable had the high authority given him to decide that the meeting was unlawful.

Mr HAWES also strongly protested against the doctrine laid down by Sir J. Graham.

Sir FREDERICK POLLOCK saw no ground for the motion. The prisoners themselves were entitled to copies of the indictments, which they could have embodied in a petition to the House, and obtained a discussion and an opinion on them, if they contained any ground of complaint. The conduct of the constable who had initiated the proceedings had been borne out by the subsequent verdict of a jury.

Mr O'CONNELL, Mr SHEIL, Lord PALMERSTON, Mr VILLIERS, and Mr EWART supported the motion, which was opposed by Sir R. H. INGLIS, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, and Sir R. PEEL; after which the House divided, and rejected the motion by a majority of 116 to 32.

IRELAND.

The motion for committee of supply was then renewed, when Mr SHARMAN CRAWFORD rose, and called the attention of the House to the present distressed condition of the poor of Ireland. He was convinced that the corn laws had been productive of much injury to Ireland; and, as an Irish proprietor, was quite willing to bear his share in any imposed burden for the relief of the distress, which was so severe that many of the poor might perish of starvation during the recess, if not by some means rescued before parliament was prorogued. He concluded by moving that the distressed state of Ireland required the immediate attention of government.

Mr FIELDEN seconded the motion.

Lord ELIOT opposed it; but admitted the unquestionable sincerity of Mr Sharman Crawford, who, as an Irish proprietor, had done much for the welfare of his humbler fellow-countrymen. He contended there was nothing in the general condition of Ireland to inspire despondency—rather the reverse. The present distress was of that usual and unfortunately annual nature, arising from the condition of a merely potatoe-consuming population, and to remedy which the government had taken measures of relief. Otherwise the country was steadily progressing in improvement, and the people actuated by a spirit of enterprise hitherto unknown.

Mr O'CONNELL thought the motion had better be withdrawn, as at this late period of the session no practical result could come from it. He believed the present distress was as severe as he had ever known, not so much in absolute famine, as in a general want of employment, and therefore wages; but admitted that the Irish government and individuals were taking steps to alleviate the distress; though he contended that the present condition of the country indicated something essentially wrong.

Mr CRAWFORD yielded to Mr O'Connell's suggestion, and withdrew his motion.

SUPPLY.

The House then proceeded with the estimates. On the vote of £12,434, for the expenses of the household of the Lord-lieutenant of Ireland, being proposed, Mr HUME said he had objected to this vote seventeen years ago. The office with all its pageantry was altogether useless; and, as he understood that the present Lord-lieutenant was about to be withdrawn, he hoped that the right hon. baronet would not appoint another. Sir R. PEEL said, that so far from there being any intention to withdraw Earl de Grey, his conduct had met with the most decided approbation of her Majesty's government; and he was merely about to leave Ireland for a short time for the recovery of his health. The vote was then agreed to.

On the vote of £35,630 for allowances to the nonconforming, seceding, and protestant dissenters in Ireland, Mr HUME protested against the principle of such a grant. It was altogether irreconcilable with the principles and policy of dissenters. If such votes were made for dissenters in Ireland, they should in fairness be equally extended to those in England and Scotland. Sir R. PEEL bore testimony to the respectability and meritorious exertions of the protestant dissenters in the north of Ireland, for whose benefit the vote was intended. If the grant was felt to be inconsistent with the conscientious scruples of any one who received it, the simple way would be to renounce its benefit. Mr M. J. O'CONNELL supported the vote. Its withdrawal would throw into severe distress those who had long been its deserving recipients, and unless all similar grants were abolished it would be unjust to lessen or discontinue it. The vote was then agreed to; as were several others, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday evening their lordships met for a short time, but no public business of interest was transacted.

On Friday evening Lord SKELMERSDALE gave notice that on the next stage of the Mines and Collieries bill, he would move an amendment to the effect that women of mature age, who had been accustomed to work in mines, be permitted to continue the same employment. The Earl of RADNOR asked Lord WHARNCLIFFE upon what grounds it was he had stated on a former evening, that the distress of the country would soon be abated. Lord WHARNCLIFFE said that the result he expected from the new Corn bill was steadiness of price, which would have been an improvement on the old system. He did already see symptoms of improvement, but unless the government had sufficient power and firmness to maintain the corn law, the price of grain must continue unsteady, and thereby operate injuriously towards the interests of the people. Lord BROUGHAM then laid on the table two bills, one of which was to facilitate a voluntary arrangement between debtor and creditor, and the other to abolish arrest on execution, in the event of the debtor making a due disclosure and surrender of his property for the benefit of his creditors.

On Monday night the Earl of DEVON moved that the Mines and Collieries bill be re-committed. Lord BROUGHAM said he had not had time to peruse the mass of evidence that had been adduced on the subject of employment in mines and collieries, but interference with capital and with the employment of the people, were matters which ought to be touched with great caution by the legislature. He had no doubt of the propriety of passing into a law a great portion of the

bill as it came from the House of Commons; that part of it prohibiting the employment of female children ought, he thought, to be enacted; but unwholesome trades must be pursued by someone or abolished altogether; if they were necessary, young persons must of necessity engage in them to learn those trades. He, therefore, cautioned their lordships how they interfered between parent and child. The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said, as the bill would not come into effect until March, 1843, he saw no objection to appoint a select committee of inquiry, and to defer the bill until next session. He begged, therefore, to propose an amendment to that effect. The House then divided, when there appeared—contents for going into committee, 49; non-contents, 3; majority, 46. Their lordships then went into committee on the bill. Several amendments to the first clause were proposed, all of which were negatived. Lord SKELMERSDALE then proposed a proviso to exempt women of forty years of age from the operation of the bill, which was lost, upon a division, by 15 to 29. The Earl of MOUNT-CASHEL, upon the clause regulating the age of children employed in the mines being put, moved that the age of twelve be substituted for that of ten, which was negatived, and the original clause agreed to. The several remaining clauses were agreed to *seriatim* without amendment, and the bill went through committee.

The South Australia bill was read a second time, and passed through committee; and on the motion of the Duke of WELLINGTON the Exchequer Bills Preparation bill was read a third time.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The Paris papers contain very little news of public interest. The *Journal des Débats* says—"The treaty between France and Belgium relative to the importation into France of linen cloth and thread has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Belgium will continue to enjoy the benefit of the former tariff. But, in order to protect the French manufacturer from British competition, the French tariff respecting linen cloth and thread will be enforced on the exterior frontier of Belgium. The French spinners and weavers will by that means have full security against the invasion of their territory on that side by the linen thread and cloths of Great Britain. Belgium, in return, has consented to reduce the existing duty on French wines by one-third, and to make an alteration in the Navigation act, which gave an undue advantage to British salt over that of French produce." The *Commerce* announces, that at 2 o'clock on Monday the deputies present at Paris were to proceed to elect by ballot the members of the grand deputation to meet the King on his opening the session. The meeting was to be held at the Palais Bourbon; M. Laffitte, the senior member, to preside. *La Presse* states that the government will not propose a ministerial candidate for the presidency of the Chamber. This journal suggests that M. Dupin would be the most desirable candidate.

SPAIN.

Madrid papers are barren of news. Private correspondence states that the misunderstanding between Senors Marliani and Gonzales had been arranged to the satisfaction of both parties by the good offices of General Seoane. The discussion on the proposed treaty of commerce between Great Britain and Spain had given rise to an angry correspondence between Mr Aston, the British envoy, and the late president of the council, M. Gonzales. The *Heraldo* states that some difficulties had arisen between the Courts of Spain and Portugal, in consequence of the arrest of M. Saenz, a senator of the province of Orense. A note couched in strong terms on the subject had been presented to Count Almadovar by the Portuguese minister. This is the cause assigned for the movement of Spanish troops towards the Portuguese frontier.

The Barcelona journals of the 17th inst. announce the arrival of General Zurbano on the 13th at Girona. The same day he ordered three Carlists to be shot in that town, and four more the following day. The British frigate *Belvidera*, of 46 guns, anchored in the port of Barcelona on the 14th. It appears that some Spanish vessels of war are to join the English frigate in a cruise on the southern coast of Spain.

PORTUGAL.

Up to the date of the last papers the Portuguese chambers were occupied by the usual preliminary proceedings, verifying returns and diplomas, electing committees, &c. Count Lavradio had moved a vote of censure against the Home Minister for irregularity in summoning the new peers to the royal session before their diplomas had been presented to the Chamber; and had also attacked the nominations themselves, as an abuse of the royal prerogative, but his motions were rejected, *in limine*, by about 2 to 1. The Chamber had decided in favour of admitting the sons of former peers without any fresh nomination, but a question had arisen with respect to the sons of Miguelite peers, which was still undecided. The tariff commission had presented another report. The papers were in the hands of Baron Tojal, who it was thought likely, in case the Duke of Palmella continued his refusal to accept office, might leave the finance for the foreign department. The Duke of Palmella had been sent for by the Queen to Cintra, and went there with his duchess; but though it was believed he was urged to take office, he still refused to do so, mainly, it was thought, owing to the influence of the latter. The army was to be recruited to upwards of 4,000 more, to make up the legal number voted in 1840.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

In consequence of a requisition, signed by Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., of Leeds, John Bright, Esq., of Rochdale, and William Rawson, Esq., of Manchester, a meeting of the merchants and the members of the leading firms in London took place on Wednesday afternoon, at the London tavern, Bishopsgate street, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present depressed state of trade, and of devising some means to alleviate the consequent distress prevailing in the country. The chair was taken at half-past three o'clock by W. Leaf, Esq. Mr Bright, of Rochdale, addressed the meeting on the extreme distress of the working classes, and of the country generally, and he was succeeded by Mr Chappell, of Manchester, Mr H. Ashworth, Provost

Henderson, Mr L. Heyworth, &c. Mr Stocks then proposed a resolution, to the effect that the corn laws are the chief cause of the present distress which pervades the country, and that measures should be adopted for their immediate repeal. The resolution was seconded and passed unanimously, amidst great applause. The *Morning Advertiser* says, this meeting was anything but well attended, and but few individuals extensively connected with the trade of London were present.

Anti-corn-law meetings have been held at Tottenham, Paddington, Hackney, Kentish Town, &c., during the past week, for the purpose of hearing the representations of several delegates respecting the present distress.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW CONVENTION.

On Wednesday last the delegates resumed their duties, the chair being taken by Mr SHUTTLEWORTH. Several letters were read from Chorley, Westbury, Longtown, Warrington, Sheffield, and Batley, and the conference was addressed by Messrs LAWRENCE HEYWORTH and Alderman CHAPPELL of Liverpool, and Mr Holland HOOLE of Manchester.

On Thursday the meeting was occupied for about four hours in hearing further details of the distress so universally prevalent.

On Friday there was an unusually large attendance, which was attributed to the peculiar interest attachable to Thursday night's debate, and to the expectation that several members of parliament would attend the meeting. Mr TAYLOR took the chair, and after reading extracts from numerous letters, called upon the Rev. Mr MASSIE of Manchester, who addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech, and concluded by reading a long report detailing the distress which prevailed in Salford and the neighbourhood. After several other delegates had been heard, Mr HUME, Mr O'CONNELL, and Mr EWART, severally addressed the assembly, exhorting the delegates to continue their agitation, which they doubted not would eventually be successful. Votes of thanks to the hon. members were passed amidst loud cheers. The CHAIRMAN then read a letter from Nottingham, contradicting Mr Gally Knight's assertion that trade was reviving. It affirmed that trade continued most depressed. The poor and unemployed used most violent language, becoming of opinion that "the world was not their friend, nor the world's law." The unemployed poor were going about in parties from 10 to 200, not begging, but rather demanding relief. The meeting then, at four o'clock, adjourned till Monday.

On Monday the delegates again assembled; Mr Taylor in the chair. Numerous letters were read, and the meeting was addressed by Mr W. Biggs of Leicester, Mr Edwards of Lambeth, Mr Overbury of Westbury, Mr Bright of Rochdale, Mr Taylor of Coventry, and other delegates.

There are at this time upwards of 1,000 individuals in confinement in Coldbath-fields prison for various offences. Nearly 200 prisoners were sent away during the week to Tothill-fields prison, there being no room for them at the House of Correction.

During the last few days the scarlet fever has committed fearful havoc amongst children in the neighbourhood of Holborn.

The parish of St George, Hanover square, have resolved to pave Piccadilly with wood from the Black Bear to Lord Ashburton's, at the corner of Bolton street.

From seventy to eighty cases of marbles, bas reliefs, and statues discovered by Mr Fellowes, in Licca, have been safely embarked on board the *Monarch* and *Medea*, steamer, and are now on their road to England, to be deposited in the British Museum.

On Thursday, the 14th inst. at a council, Anthony White, Esq., was elected president; and John Goldwyn Andrews, Esq., and Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., vice-presidents of the college of surgeons for the ensuing year.

An account showing the quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the bank of England, from the 23rd day of April, to the 16th day of July, 1842, both inclusive, published in pursuance of the act 3 and 4 William IV., c. 98:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation	£18,279,000	Securities	£21,713,000
Deposits	8,565,000	Bullion	7,818,000
	£26,844,000		£29,531,000

PROVINCIAL.

A great meeting was held on Tuesday last at Coventry, for the purpose of considering the alarming condition of the country. The County hall in which the assembly was held not being capable of containing all the auditors, the meeting was adjourned to the open air. The meeting was attended by some of the leading manufacturers of the place, who joined with the chartists in denouncing our present representative system. We have no room for a report of the various speeches, but the following are extracts from two of the most important:—

"Mr Taunton said they had now arrived at a time of the most awful importance. It was high time, when fierce starvation stared them in the face—when the prattling infant had become a burden and a curse—when every tie, sacred and divine, was broken by the melancholy, desolating poverty that was now felt by all classes—when all this was seen and felt, it was time to arouse themselves. Unless a thorough complete union now took place between the middle and working classes, beyond all doubt there would be a disorganisation of society; and he would say, if such unheard of, unparalleled distress were to continue, there ought to be a disorganisation. There were many persons who said machinery was the cause of distress; but he most sincerely deplored the system of Ludditism, which would destroy machinery. Would they break up the railroads, and go back to the packhorse? Would they, in fine, dispense with all the splendid efforts of genius and perseverance? No, they would not; they could not. It was utterly false to say that machinery was the cause of their misery; and he hoped that the working classes would not allow themselves to direct their vengeance against machinery, and in doing so please only their bitterest enemies.

Mr Buckney, a chartist, in the course of a speech warmly applauded, said that—

"It was nothing more than a mere farce to say that the tariff would relieve them. They must have a real change in the whole system; and, although that change might involve some trials and sacrifices, they must be met. Labour for the industrious classes would be impossible under the present system; and unless the middle classes joined the working classes, ruin inevitably would come upon all. If this union did not take place soon, they might rely upon it the aristocracy would have to pass through a revolution. The people wanted bread, and bread they would have. He most sincerely implored the middle classes to come forward. No man on earth could guarantee the peace of England while the people were starving. No soldiers, no yeomanry, no police could save the property of the country from destruction, if millions were to be doomed to daily starvation."

Resolutions, despairing of any hope of relief from a parliament who have rejected the prayers of the people for an abundant supply of food, and the reform of the electoral system—declaring their belief that the country was on the eve of convulsion—and calling on the members for the city to stop the supplies, were unanimously adopted. Though the rain fell in torrents the people stirred not during the whole of the various addresses.

A meeting of the members and friends of the Birmingham Anti-corn-law association was held on Thursday evening, to consider the propriety of calling upon the members for that borough, in conjunction with other members of parliament, to resist, by all the lawful and constitutional means in their power, the prorogation of parliament, before the distresses of the people have been relieved. Several spirited resolutions were adopted, among which is the following, sufficiently indicating what must inevitably be the next movement of the anti-corn-law party:—

"That this meeting recommends a general amalgamation of opinions and interests amongst our influential fellow-townsmen, for the purpose of promoting a universal organisation of the whole of the people, by which the numerous wrongs and grievances may be redressed, and the political rights of the millions may be secured."

Meetings of "shopkeepers," &c., have been held during the past week at Halifax and Beverley. At the last place the charter was unanimously affirmed to be the only remedy for the present distress.

At the various meetings held at Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, and other large towns, delegates were appointed to wait upon the entire cabinet, as the last appeal to the government and legislature.

The memorial adopted by the Manchester Anti-corn-law association, calling on the members for that borough to use every constitutional means in their power to stop any further supplies to the government until the corn and provision laws are abolished, received in the course of two days no fewer than 63,925 signatures.

In addition to the memorials adopted by the inhabitants of Manchester and Salford, calling upon their members to stop the supplies, similar memorials have been adopted at a large meeting at Huddersfield, and various other places.

At Manchester, in many of the tradesmen's windows placards are placed, announcing, "No assessed taxes, nor income tax paid here." Crowds of operatives and their families, from Stockport and other towns, flock a distance of seven miles to obtain relief, in the shape of soup and food, at Manchester.

The list of income tax commissioners for the city of Worcester, presents the extraordinary anomaly of three names from one firm or house of business—those of John and William Dent and Jeremiah M. Allcroft, Esqrs. It is well known that these gentlemen, under the firm of J. and W. Dent and Co., are more extensively engaged in the leather and glove trade than any other in the kingdom. The gross indecency of the appointment lies in its giving to these three gentlemen, extensively dealing as they do with the glove manufacturers, the power of thoroughly examining the affairs of every person with whom they deal; of ascertaining whether he can afford to hold his stock and wait for a purchaser, or whether his necessities are so pressing that he is enforced to close with the first offer.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

Mr Richard Rathbone, of Liverpool, having been chosen one of the "supplementary income-tax commissioners," has stated his determination to "have nothing to do with the carrying out of a measure so unjust, so inquisitorial, so abhorrent to every feeling which remains to us as a free people."—*Liverpool Journal*.

The *Leeds Mercury* states, on the faith of a letter received by them, that a circular proposing an increase of duty on worsted and cotton mixed goods was issued by the Prussian government, and that the question will be brought forward by that power at the congress at Stuttgart.

The colliers in the Potteries are still out, and without any prospect of returning to work. The troops have been removed from the race-course to Newcastle, and various additions have been made to their force. The men continue quiet on the whole, but the numbers of unemployed is daily on the increase, and it is calculated that 80,000 hands, chiefly potters, will be thrown out of employ this week. The magistrates have sworn in nearly 700 special constables. The *Times* says that nothing but dire distress, to which the men and their families must shortly be reduced, will have the effect of bringing them back to their employ. A body of men from the works of Staffordshire went over to Donnington Wood, Salop, and induced the colliers there to suspend work, which was almost unanimously done, without any act of violence being committed. Five men were captured by the police, who were conveyed to Wellington, and committed to Shrewsbury gaol to take their trial at the next assizes. The Salopian yeomanry were called out and remained in the neighbourhood during the day, and the Wellington yeomanry were under orders to hold themselves in readiness.

At Manchester, Leeds, and Bradford, there has been some little improvement in trade during the past week; at Leicester and Huddersfield things have been stationary.

A curious case was heard before Mr Baron Alderson on the Norfolk circuit, last week. Messrs Fisher, bankers, brought an action against a Mr Lilley for speaking certain slanderous words impeaching their credit as bankers. It appeared in the evidence that a Mr Balls, keeping an account with the plaintiffs, was waited upon by the defendant, who told him that Messrs Fisher had stopped payment. Mr Balls told him that what he was saying was a most serious matter, and he ought to have it from good authority, which the defendant said he had. After the case had been gone into on both sides, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with 100*l.* damages.

At the Durham assizes Thomas McCann and John Swinburne were indicted, the former for a robbery in taking away sixteen gold watches from the window of Messrs Reid and Co., watchmakers, in Durham, and the latter for receiving the said watches, knowing them to have been stolen. After the examination of an accomplice, the jury retired for about half an hour, when they returned a verdict, finding McCann guilty, and acquitting Swinburne. Sentence was deferred.

IRELAND.

In the course of a trial before Mr Justice Torrens, at Sligo, a woman was called on by the crown to give testimony, but on coming to the

table she refused to be sworn, giving as an excuse that she was married and pregnant. His lordship reasoned with her but she persisted, and the learned judge said it was due to public justice not to allow such notions to interfere with the administration of the laws, and he therefore committed her to gaol for contempt of court.

On the 16th inst, Byrnes and Quilty, who were convicted of murder before the Special Tipperary Commission, underwent the extreme sentence of the law at Clonmel.

From all quarters the accounts that reach us are most encouraging. The corn crops all present a most luxuriant aspect. Wheat, in some districts, in limited breadth, but looking rich and most promisingly. Oats generally good; and potatoes likely to be early, and immense in produce.—*Tipperary Free Press*.

SCOTLAND.

The "fast" appointed by the General Assembly for Thursday last was, in a great many places throughout the country, kept as a holiday.

The *Glasgow Argus* says—"We observe from our advertising columns, as well as from actual observation, that the warehousemen, silk mercers, drapers, and hosiers, have agreed to close their respective places of business at eight o'clock in the evening; and it cannot but give every member of the community pleasure to see with what decision and punctuality the agreement is carried into effect—the doors, with one or two meagre and solitary exceptions, being shut precisely at the hour, and customers coming after are actually refused admittance. No steps have ever been taken which will so palpably impress the public that there is more in shutting the shops at eight o'clock than a mere name; and, should it only be closely practised for a single fortnight, purchasers will find it their interest to make an early call; they will receive more attention from young men employed in those houses, inasmuch as they are certain that, come what may, after their hour they have only to prepare their places for shutting; and can any one expect attention, when he reflects that he is robbing the individual with whom he is transacting of that time which he holds so valuable—and not only that individual, but perhaps the whole class to which he belongs—depriving them of the single hour of daylight at this season of the year which, until this month, even he whose head has silvered in his confinement has never enjoyed. We trust that employers will strictly keep their engagement, and that the public will give them countenance in it.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, July 27.

In the house of Commons last night, upon the suggestion of Sir F. BURDETT, Sir R. PEEL promised that he would move an address to the Crown, praying that a testimonial might be erected in commemoration of the services of the late Sir Sidney Smith. Mr BROTHERTON protested against any grant of money to keep in memory the exploits of a warrior. The Colonial Passengers bill was brought on for third reading, when Mr HAWES objected to it; and raised a discussion on the subject of the transportation of Hill Coolies from India to the Mauritius. Mr MANGLES argued in favour of the permission of the immigration of Indian labourers. Mr HOGE strongly censured Lord Stanley for not having pursued a fair and straightforward course in the matter; first in his opposition to the late government, and his present adoption of that which he had formerly condemned. He was not opposed to a voluntary emigration under regulations which would effectually secure that the Indian labourer knew before he quitted his home where he was going to, and under what conditions. Lord STANLEY recounted the whole proceedings attending this Hill Cooly transportation from its commencement, defended his conduct in relation to it, and entered into a lengthened statement, to show that the government, in sanctioning Hill Cooly emigration, were doing so under regulations which would prevent all the former evils, and promote the benefit alike of India and the Mauritius. After a few words from Mr HASTIE and Sir R. INGLIS in opposition to the bill, and from Mr HUME in support of it, the House divided, negating the clause which had been proposed, and the bill was then passed. The report of the committee on the Parish Constables bill was then, after some discussion, received, and the bill ordered to be read a third time this day. The Bonded Corn bill was read a third time and passed; and the other orders having been then disposed of, the House adjourned.

In the House of Lords the second reading of the Poor-law Continuance bill was moved by the Duke of WELLINGTON, who reminded the House that he had supported the original measure, whose necessity and importance had been confirmed by its operation and beneficial results, though he objected to some of its details, such as the building of the enormous union workhouses. Earl STANHOPE spoke at considerable length against the bill, which, he contended, would so disgust the working classes as to lead to a revolution. He moved that it be read a second time that day six months. Lord BROUGHAM censured Earl Stanhope for his declamatory appeals to the passions of the people, and his prophecies of rebellion. He considered the working of the new poor-law was a sufficient test of its value. Earl STANHOPE's amendment was negatived without a division; the bill was read a second time; and, after some other business, the House adjourned.

The anti-corn-law deputies met as usual yesterday, and were occupied for four hours in hearing letters read, and addresses from various members of the league.

The accounts from the Potteries are still unsatisfactory. The correspondent of the *Chronicle* says, "I have been informed that eight or nine of the ringleaders have been arrested at or near Newcastle, and committed to gaol. As yet there is no sign of the men going to work—many would return to the pits but dare not. Such is the state of things here at present. I have also just been informed that the men in several works have gone down into the pits, guarded by rifles; but I am also led to understand that after the meeting of colliers which takes place to-day, they intend going in a body to stop them."

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of all kinds of grain is large, and the market dull. Prices are nominally as on Monday; but 1*s.* to 2*s.* per quarter less has been taken for wheat.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Favours have been received from "James Hill," "James Humphrys," "H. Hughes," "J. G. Stuart," and "O. Rowland;" and are acknowledged with thanks.

"B. Parsons" next week, if possible.

"Julius" respectfully declined, as too long for our columns.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1842.

SUMMARY.

The leading event of the week just gone by is the publication of Mr Roebuck's report. Upon its general contents we have commented in another place. The sudden cessation of attacks which had been leveled with unwonted pertinacity and iteration, by several of the leading journals, against the member for Bath and his coadjutors in committee, is curious and instructive. The report seems to have knocked the breath out of their bodies. They are deprived of the power of utterance, and stagger beneath the blow which it inflicts upon the abettors of corruption. Even the *Times*, whose columns had been daily charged with scurrility and abuse, could muster only sufficient energy to mutter out something like a rude apology, and then drop the subject. The report contains matter for various trains of reflection. To some of them we have taken leave to direct the attention of our readers; others of a somewhat more general nature we defer until next week.

The Anti-corn-law conference are still at work. They have addressed a memorial to Prince Albert, the reply to which, as a matter of course, breathes confidence in the wisdom of parliament; and deputations have waited upon various members of the cabinet, who gave them assurance that the subject of the present distress is now under the consideration of her Majesty's ministers. We have no desire to extinguish rational hopes, but really the hope of forcing corn-law repeal from a parliament of landlords, more especially after the evidence they have given of their deep abhorrence of the measure, does appear to our minds hoping against hope. We are not at all surprised that the unwearied importunity of the League should succeed in wringing from the government passing expressions which may be construed favourably by the supporters of free trade; but we cannot forget that the government itself is but the representative of a powerful class, whose interests, in their own estimation, are all bound up with the maintenance of the present system. "Fair words," says the proverb, "butter no parsnips," and we must be pardoned if, when night after night a packed majority refuse to reopen the question of the corn laws, we put no faith in the easy declaration of ministers that "the subject engages their serious consideration."

The House of Commons has been trying to make head in voting the estimates for the current year. In this, however, they have met with many serious obstructions. On Wednesday night last Mr Gladstone moved the second reading of the Bonded Corn bill, the object of which is to give permission to grind foreign corn in bond. Mr Roebuck, in the discussion which followed, gave great offence by saying, that the true motto of the real English country gentlemen was, "Down with everything, but up with the rents." He stated his belief, that the landlords, who form the main support of government, were more alarmed at the idea of losing a halfpenny or a farthing per pound of their rents, than at the starvation of millions. A large majority affirmed the second reading. The report of the Poor Law Amendment bill was then brought up, and Mr Escott moved an additional clause for empowering guardians to grant out-door relief at their discretion. The motion was rejected, but on Friday evening, after the bill had been read a third time, Mr D. Acland proposed as a rider a clause to empower guardians to appoint local committees to receive applications from persons living at a distance from the place of meeting of the board. To this addition Sir J. Graham assented.

Three debates have been devoted to the distress of the country; one upon a motion of Mr Duncombe, to express the anxious hope of the House that if, after the termination of the present session, no decisive improvement should take place in the condition of her Majesty's suffering and loyal subjects, her Majesty may be pleased again at an early period to call parliament together, with a view of giving fuller effect to the principles of free trade. The next upon the motion of Mr Milner Gibson that the House resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the distressed state of the country. The third upon the motion of Mr Sharman Crawford, to the effect that the distress of the people of Ireland required the immediate consideration of the House, and of her Majesty's government, for the purpose of the adoption of such measures as may be deemed advisable under present circumstances, to alleviate the extreme destitution of the working classes of that country. The first two were negatived by considerable majorities; the last was with the consent of the House withdrawn.

In the committee of supply few topics worth notice elicited discussion. The grant to Maynooth college afforded the usual outlet for the pent-up bigotry of the high church party; and the grant of £35,630 for nonconformist dissenters in Ireland, reflected the usual

disgrace upon that body. Several of the estimates voted on Monday night deserve notice. £6,300 to complete the bronze equestrian statue of George IV.; £60,000 to be distributed among the soldiers, sailors, and marines, engaged in the war in Syria; £159,545 granted to her Majesty to defray the charges of disembodied militia in England and Ireland; and £1,936 for fitting up the aisle of St Giles's church, Edinburgh, as a parish church, afford curious illustrations of the objects to which public money is devoted by our senators.

The only other discussion to which we direct the attention of our readers was that raised by Mr Duncombe upon the subject of the committal of Mr Mason, the chartist lecturer; who, upon the testimony of a single constable, was consigned by the magistrates of Staffordshire to six months' imprisonment for sedition and attending an unlawful meeting. The doctrine promulgated by Sir James Graham, and maintained by the Attorney and Solicitor General, was to this effect—That a constable is a proper judge of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of a public meeting; and that, in the execution of his duty, seeing a public assembly, and hearing language likely, in his opinion, to create a breach of the peace, he was bound to apprehend the principal parties so offending. This is undisguised and naked toryism, and if acted upon may prevent the public discussion of grievances altogether.

The business transacted in the house of Lords has been of minor importance, if we except the passage of the Mines and Collieries bill through committee without any further mutilation of its humane provisions. The subject of education gave rise to a short conversation on Monday night, in which ecclesiastical generosity displayed itself most conspicuously. The bishop of London intimated his fears at the establishment, under the patronage of government, of schools for the mechanical parts of education, and for linear drawing, in addition to those for vocal instruction. The pious prelate confessed that the addition of other branches of education excited in him, and in others, some apprehensions; because one species of instruction might be added to the other, and a normal school being once established, without any religious instruction being provided by the government, to retrace our steps would be impossible. So that drawing may not be taught now, without the superintendence of the clergy.

The writ for Nottingham is not yet issued, and we suspect, as will be seen by reference to another column, that a strong effort will be made by the conservatives to disfranchise the borough which they have done their worst to corrupt.

THE LEGISLATURE AND THE COUNTRY.

HISTORY records that in olden times, when the representatives of this kingdom were exercising the strength of nascent privilege against brawny prerogative, the ground usually selected for the contest was upon the motion of the minister to grant a subsidy for the crown. It was seldom, indeed, that the Commons positively refused compliance with the monarch's request; but neither did they assent to it as a matter of course. On the contrary, they deferred from month to month the consideration of his wishes, until they had stated their grievances, and obtained some promise of redress. They were often disappointed; altogether, it may be said, they succeeded but seldom; but, at least, they pointed out the constitutional way to the accomplishment of national purposes, when the whole force of authority was directed against them. They had a power for good, and they used it. No one thinks of charging them with having factiously obstructed the progress of government.

Since an oligarchy has supplanted monarchy in these realms, privilege has been hung up as a state weapon, designed for ornament rather than for use. Both political parties seem to have concurred in leaving upon the mind of the country a vague impression of awe at the bare thought of resorting to an obstruction, much more a stoppage, of the "supplies." They hold, and they have taught the people to believe, that whilst the legislative measures of a government may be opposed with vigour, no difficulty ought to be thrown in the way of its pecuniary demands. In relation to that one article, money, the House has no choice but to vote when and what the minister of the day may bid it. Such are the slavish doctrines which the aristocracy have done their best to promulgate, and which a hireling press is ever and anon exerting its giant power to abet and establish. During the past fortnight, they have been put forth in every variety of modification. The Premier, the leaders of the opposition, flaming radicals, itinerant orators, newspapers (daily and weekly, conservative and liberal), have deprecated throwing obstacles in the way of government; or rather, as they express it, obstructing the business of the country, by postponing night after night the voting the supplies.

The nation is plunged into deep distress—distress, in great measure, produced by legislative blunders, the mischiefs of which have been aggravated by a succession of deficient harvests. A scarcity of food, artificially created, has rendered subsistence more difficult of attainment, at the same time that it has diminished the means of its attainment—has added to the price of food, and thereby subtracted from the general amount of employment. The stream of legislation has for years run adverse to the interests of the country. Every current may have its source in widely different regions, but all of them find their way into one channel, and unite in bearing down the industry and native energies of the people. The result is privation and misery more wide-spread and intense than this country perhaps has at any former period witnessed. Under these circumstances, a government upheld by the votes of a majority, of whose mode of obtaining power recent exposures have given a fair specimen, refuses either to inquire into or to relieve the

alarming distress of the nation ; and their chief anxiety appears to be to get the money required by their present exigencies, and thereupon, by proroguing, to put an end to all importunity upon the subject. To this plan several members of the House have offered a quiet but determined opposition, taking advantage of the minister's present wants to force upon his consideration the state of the empire ; in other words, they have brought out once again for serious use the constitutional privilege which all political parties had laid aside as obsolete.

We are not sorry that repeated motions have been made within the last three weeks, the doleful burden of which has been without variation—national distress. There are, as we are told by high authority, those who although they fear not God neither regard man, become at last wearied out with importunity. We have not the slightest expectation of this issue in the present case ; but we are well content that the ancient privilege of the people should again be taken down from the walls and burnished up for future use. To us it is matter of gratulation, that conventional maxims are beginning to give way ; that rulers who set at defiance the real well-being as well as the wishes of the people whom they govern, should find their path strewn with more difficulties than they have heretofore encountered. We rejoice that the oligarchy, which flourishes amid the decay of ruined interests, is made to flutter beneath the first sighings of that storm which is destined to lay their political supremacy prostrate in the dust. With these feelings we have watched, not without interest, the successive interruptions to public business already adverted to ; and useless as we believe them, considered as means to the end proposed, we yet discern in them the promise of future good.

We beg, now, to put the question in all seriousness to the gentlemen who represent the opinions of the Anti-corn-law league in parliament, whether a longer continuance of their present system of tactics is well adapted to secure their triumph. There is a point beyond which, when importunity is carried, it becomes beggary. We can understand a firm and dignified adherence to a certain line of policy, and we can, in proper places, admire it. But the pertinacity which loses all sense of self-respect, and which persists in angry remonstrance, or loud complaint, when neither avails nor can avail to the attainment of a purpose, is what few men can be found to revere. They have now tried their utmost with the present House of parliament, and spite of all professions they must be aware that they have signally failed. Let them cease their fruitless efforts. Let them retire from the path of a legislature, whom they only provoke to trample their cause and themselves in the dust. Let them not be ashamed to fall back upon the people, and avenge their insulted manhood by vowing the extinction of class legislation. The way is yet open to them, not merely to distinction, but to success ; but that way lies not through aristocracy, but through a wise democracy. There is no reason to fear that agitation for the suffrage will place even in temporary abeyance the question of free trade. For a moment it may seem lost to public view, but the billows, which ever and anon appear to swallow up the vessel, serve rather to upbear it and to speed its course to its destined haven. Nothing but the heaving of the public mind and the mighty blast of popular opinion can avail against the oppressive influence of the aristocracy ; and the cause which hesitates to commit itself in noble confidence to these, may tug at the oars until exhaustion renders it powerless. So long as the Anti-corn-law league, and the leading politicians usually identified with it, fear to hoist their sails to the rising gale, the tumultuous swelling of the multitude exposes them and their principles to imminent hazard. Let them boldly spread their canvass ; let them gaily hoist their colours ; let them place their man at the helm, and make for full, fair, and free representation of the people, and the very waves which now threaten to overwhelm them will prove their best allies ; whilst the storm which moans in their tackling, like a funeral dirge sometimes performed before death, will bear them onward with irresistible might, and make the very dangers which now menace them subserve the ultimate accomplishment of their end.

From our inmost souls we cannot but pity the eloquent orators who, like Napoleon during his Russian campaign, labour by elaborate bulletins to convert defeat into victory. We admire the talents of these men as much as most ; but if they be sincere, we marvel at their faith. The mind which can contemplate the results of this last, or of the preceding Anti-corn-law conference with the cheerful glow of satisfaction, must be blessed with a truly sanguine temperament. We observe, however, that the professional orators are far better pleased than the simple-hearted and sincere labourers, with the present aspect of their cause. They remind us of men employed to bore holes for blasting rocks. They seem to think the boring should go on *ad infinitum* ; and appeal, in proof of the progress they make day by day, to their half-inch greater depth, which by dint of hard labour they have reached. We want to introduce the gunpowder which will shorten their work ; and they enter upon a course of splendid argument to prove that the longer they bore the deeper they get, and that if they bore long enough they must eventually succeed. Poor men ! Their talents and perseverance would do honour to a less Quixotic enterprise.

THE ELECTION COMPROMISES COMMITTEE.

At length the report of Mr Roebuck's committee is published. We have given, in another column, a summary of the main facts that it contains. The member for Bath has made good his promise. He has sustained, by a body of evidence, the authority of which cannot be called in question, the charges which he preferred ; and which he undertook, if furnished with adequate power, to prove against certain parties guilty of corrupt compromise. In no single case has

he failed to establish the conclusion at which he aimed. His report is now before the world. It may claim the merit of being a dispassionate and comprehensive summary of the facts which came under the notice of the committee ; and will, we imagine, fully bear up the reputation which Mr Roebuck earned for himself by his first movement in this direction ; in short, the Election Compromises committee has done its work fairly and well. It has got at the truth in each case, and without fear or favour has communicated it to the public. Its investigations strike us as having been conducted with great ability, and with unimpeachable honesty ; and the result of them cannot fail of proving permanently beneficial. We tender to Mr Roebuck and his coadjutors our grateful acknowledgements, and we have no doubt that their services will be appreciated by all who are interested in putting a period to the progress of corruption.

It is impossible to wade through, as we have done, the evidence in question, without being painfully impressed with the truth, that freedom of election is a mere figment of fancy. These six boroughs, as we have more than once taken occasion to observe, do not by any means stand pre-eminent for corrupt practices. They afford but a fair sample of the whole number. They embrace most of the varieties which the class includes. They exhibit the working of our present system, in small, in middle-sized, and in large constituencies. They afford an opportunity of bringing out the electioneering tactics of all political parties. They constitute a sufficiently broad basis, upon which to build some general conclusions. It would appear that they contain amongst them about 9,000 electors ; that the sum expended in them at the last election was somewhat upwards of £50,000, giving an average for each contested borough of something like £8,000. Had every elector in each borough been subject to contaminating influences, the remuneration for each vote would have been upwards of £5 ; but if we suppose only half of the constituency in the specified instances to have been tampered with, the sum expended yields something beyond £10 per man. The number of boroughs in England and Wales, contested at the last election, was 124. We have no reason for supposing that the average expense of each contest was far below that of the six boroughs in question. If this assumption be correct, and we are persuaded it is not far from truth, the sum expended in the borough contests of England and Wales alone, amounted to no less than one million pounds. Representation, then, becomes a mockery. Legislative power in this country is the subject of pecuniary purchase, to be had, as every other marketable commodity, by the wealthy capitalist. The House of Commons no more reflects the mind of the country, than a body of railroad shareholders, or proprietors of East India stock. Its responsibility is merely nominal. The members of which it is composed are as necessary to the constituencies, as the constituencies are to them. Such a house is not entitled to, nor can it enjoy, the respect and confidence of the nation. Its power, after all, must rest upon a conventionality which stands in direct opposition to all the rules of political morality, and all the claims of eternal justice. Were its laws in harmony with the wishes of the people, the baseness of its origin would yet suffice to throw discredit upon all its exercises of authority. Opposed as they are, however, to the national welfare ; conceived in selfishness, and carried into effect with the most inconsiderate and unyielding pertinacity ; it wants not the mantle of a prophet to foresee that the foundation is too weak, and too insecure, to bear the superincumbent pressure ; and that, unless the basis be presently enlarged and strengthened, the whole legislative machinery of the empire will suddenly fall to pieces.

It is not by any means surprising that seats thus obtained should come to be regarded as the property of the purchaser—to be, within certain restrictions, retained or disposed of according to his own judgment. It is curious to observe the subordinate position which the constituencies themselves hold in the minds of those who claim to be their representatives. In the arrangements which are now proved to have taken place, not a single reference is made to their will and pleasure. No one seems to have thought of consulting them. The possible view they might take of the bargain which transferred them from one political party to another, never appears to have been an element in the calculations of the prime agents in these transactions. The language employed, the sentiments uttered, the complaints made, the rights claimed, by both the members and the candidates in question, evidently grow out of the conclusion established in their minds, that a seat in parliament is the property of him who has purchased it ; that he may do as he likes with his own ; and that the political influence and power which that seat may give him, belong as exclusively to himself, as did the gold which he paid down for its purchase.

We shall not at the present moment enter more at large upon the general topics suggested to us by this report. The long continuance of the present system is rendered, by this exposure, next to impossible. A nation cannot be long governed by a formal pretence, the hollowness of which has been detected and proved. We can only express our wish that the evidence in question may be condensed and published in a cheap form, and circulated as speedily as possible throughout the length and breadth of the land.

TORY CONSPIRACY TO DISFRANCHISE NOTTINGHAM.

THE facts which support this charge are developed in the evidence given before the Election Proceedings committee, and the numerals which appear within brackets in the statement we now make, afford a reference to the answers of parties before the committee, as they stand in the printed report. We may premise that the witnesses we shall quote, all profess to be leading members of the tory party at Nottingham, or tory candidates for its representation ; so that whatever be the effect of the evidence, it is furnished by themselves. " Out of their own mouths " we will judge them.

The statement by the Nottingham tories of their own case, amounts, then, to this:—

1. That they "have tried to get the borough for many years past, but that they have generally been unsuccessful;" that they have tried the "purity system," without success; that they have put forward a neighbouring gentleman, "popular, humane, and benevolent," but he failed "on account of funds;" that they "never had a chance until they got Mr Walter;" and that "there would have been no chance whatever of his success," if "he had not spent a large sum of money."

2. That with this knowledge of the feelings of the people of Nottingham regarding toryism, they determined to *buy* the borough, or to *disfranchise* it.

3. That Mr Walter was the candidate who provided the funds for carrying out this design, first of corrupting, and if that failed, then of disfranchising the town.

The evidence of Mr Wm Hannay and of Mr George Rawson, given with great frankness, and we doubt not with perfect truth (see their answer to questions, 970-1-2, and 924), contains their admissions of the facts stated in the first of the above heads, and also so much of the second as relates to the tory determination to buy the borough. The proof of their alternative object of disfranchisement, is scattered over a wider surface, and will require a short narrative of the evidence.

The report discloses an entire concert between Mr Walter and his friends, to refuse to answer to any questions relating to the election in April, 1841, when they were successful in buying the borough [747,925]; this refusal, therefore, we have a right to take as an admission of what was stated by other witnesses, as to the mode in which that success had been obtained; viz., by the practice of bribery and corruption to an extent never before known [600,861-2-3]. This fact is indeed impliedly admitted by the evidence of Mr Hannay and Mr Rawson; for they attribute their failures at the second election to the absence of the means of purchasing, without which "there was no chance whatever;" an admission, therefore, that when they did succeed, it was by the purchase of votes.

At the moment of failure to *purchase*, commenced the design to *disfranchise*. The very time and mode of resignation was carefully considered with this especial object [530-2,932,998]. A petition was presented; the recognizance made, which Mr Walter guaranteed [785], charging every offence that could lead to disfranchisement, but nothing else—not claiming the seat [532]. The expense of prosecuting this petition Mr Walter shrunk from [791]; but on condition that he abandoned his claim to the seat, "either by an arrangement or a fresh election," this was undertaken by Lord Lincoln, after conferring with six or seven leading conservatives at Nottingham, who he states were willing that he should do this "in the only way in which he would consent to prosecute it," viz., "showing grounds for the disfranchisement of the borough;" and "that with the idea of getting rid of the franchise of the town, which they felt would be the greatest blessing the town could obtain, they were perfectly willing to consent that Lord Lincoln should prosecute the petition in any way that he liked" [532,545]. In furtherance of this arrangement £500 was paid by Lord Lincoln to the agents for the petition; but the object of disfranchisement not being obtained, this sum was repaid to him [554]; and this nobleman further told the committee that "he had a certain sum subscribed which he had obtained from friends," and "that if the case came out as he believed it would, in the course of three or four days, parties would be willing to come forward and advance further sums" [561].

Here, then, is a statement from the parties concerned—that Mr Walter and six or seven leading conservatives of Nottingham consented together that Lord Lincoln should step into the place of Mr Walter, as the promoter of the petition which had been presented; and that Lord Lincoln stipulated, and they agreed that this should be done, "on no other grounds" than "with a view to disfranchisement"—to obtain this "specific object." The fact of Lord Lincoln undertaking to provide funds, shows clearly that this must have been the only object of going on with the petition; for if the object had been to get a fresh election, at which Mr Walter might have a chance, why should the expense of procuring that chance be cast on Lord Lincoln? The fact is, then, indisputable, that Mr Walter and six or seven leading conservative gentlemen of Nottingham, were parties to this attempt by Lord Lincoln to procure the disfranchisement of Nottingham.

It remains to be seen whether this same Mr Walter will again offer his services to the electors of Nottingham. If he does, we recommend careful inquiry as to the nature of the services he proposes to render; whether disfranchisement is placed on his list of intended benefits; and that he be required to favour the constituency with the names of the six or seven conservative gentlemen who proposed to aid him and Lord Lincoln in the last attempt at this object.

Seriously, we say, that after the revelation that is now made of this man's doings, in first debasing the constituency of Nottingham by his bribes, and afterwards, when the personal object of all this corruption was defeated, seeking to inflict punishment for the very crimes he had himself solicited, it would be a display of effrontery and impudence, such as the world has not yet witnessed, for him again to stand erect before the men of Nottingham. If he has the hardihood to do it, we are quite sure that they have the virtue and justice to turn from him and his abettors with scorn; and the wisdom to place their interests in the proffered hands of the honest and virtuous Joseph Sturge.

Parliament, it is confidently stated, will be prorogued the second week in August.—*Standard*.

Her Majesty and the court left Buckingham palace for Windsor castle, on Saturday afternoon, and are expected to remain there some time.

Her Majesty, it is understood, is again in the way of adding to the impediments already existing to the King of Hanover's chance of ever reaching the throne of England.—*Hants Independent*.

A cabinet council was held on Saturday afternoon at the Foreign office. It was attended by Sir R. Peel, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Wharncliffe, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir J. Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir E. Knatchbull, and the Earl of Ripon. The council sat two hours and a half.

A deputation from the merchants, planters, and others, and from the Colonial society, had an interview on Saturday with Sir Robert Peel, at his official residence in Downing street, on the subject of the cinnamon duties.

On Monday a deputation, consisting of delegates from the great manufacturing towns, had an interview, by appointment, with Sir Robert Peel, to lay before him the alarming distress prevalent amongst the population generally in their respective districts. Those gentlemen were expressly deputed for that purpose by large bodies of their fellow townsmen during the past week, and the movement was independent of the Anti-corn-law league, now holding their sittings in the metropolis. Sir R. Peel listened to their statements for two hours, and then replied that the topics to which they had alluded were under the anxious consideration of the government. The deputation proceeded to the Colonial office, and were introduced to Lord Stanley, who heard their statements and made them a similar reply. They then waited upon Lord Wharncliffe, who, after listening a short time, made an excuse and politely bowed them out.

By the death of the Hon. Mrs Fox, a pension of £1,200 per annum, which bears date December 4, 1806 (within three months after the decease of the Right Hon. Charles James Fox), falls to the crown.

Lord Lowther is stated to have determined to abolish mail coaches where it is practicable to do so, and he has also intimated his intention to dispense with mail guards on railways. This plan, considering that guards are now paid by the post office, and not by fees from the public, will save a great expense. On some of the northern railways the railway guards have already been sworn to enable them to take charge of the letter bags. The Earl of Lichfield first introduced the payment of guards by the post office, and prohibited them from taking fees from coach passengers; but this plan was introduced gradually on account of the expense. The payment by the post office of the staff of mail guards that was necessary before railways were completed, would have increased the expenses of the department by an item of £70,000.

By a royal decree, the import duty from Naples on books is reduced one half.

The first importation of horned cattle under the new tariff passed the custom house last week. It consisted of four bulls from Switzerland, of the celebrated Dun breed which is produced in that country, and during the summer months is pastured upon the lower acclivities of the mountains. They reached London from Rotterdam, and had been brought down the whole course of the Rhine. Their value was estimated (of course for the purpose of the breeder), at about £80 per head.

The Newcastle-under-Lyne committee have come to the following resolution:—"That John Quincy Harris, Esq., was not duly elected, and ought not to have been returned; but that John Campbell Colquhoun, Esq., was duly elected, and ought to have been returned; and that the opposition to the petition was neither frivolous nor vexatious."

MR ROEBUCK'S COMMITTEE.

The report of the Election Proceedings committee is now before the public, and verifies in every particular the memorable speech of Mr Roebuck in the house of Commons on moving for the committee. The report is drawn up with great conciseness, clearness, and temper. It is founded, with hardly an exception, on the admissions of the parties themselves, and few of the facts stated depend on hostile evidence. After stating that the committee conceive that the inquiry was not one of a judicial character; that they were not called upon to decide upon the legality or illegality of the proceedings of any party, or upon the guilt or innocence of the transactions in which any of the parties implicated were involved, in connexion with the alleged compromises and bribery; and that they understand their duty to have been to elicit all the facts of the several cases, rather with a view to expose the evils of a system, than by any direct expression of their own opinion to inculpate individuals; it proceeds to show that the two last acts relating to the trial of election petitions, the one introduced by Sir Robert Peel, the other by Lord John Russell, directly led in many instances to compromises between parties prosecuting or defending their individual rights, by which charges of gross bribery and corruption were entirely withdrawn from further investigation. In every case brought before the committee, bribery the grossest and most extensive was proved.

In the case of Harwich there is evidence of a compromise entered into between the agent of Mr Attwood and Major Beresford on the one part, and the agent of Sir D. Le Marchant on the other, by which it was arranged that the petitions against the return of the sitting members should be withdrawn; that Major Beresford should retire, by accepting the Chiltern hundreds, within a month after the 3rd of May; that Sir D. Le Marchant should be allowed to stand unopposed by Mr Attwood; and that Mr Attwood should pay, by way of deposit, as guarantee, £2,500, to be forfeited provided the engagements were unfulfilled. Here, too, it is proved that a sum of £6,300 was expended by Mr Attwood for himself and Major Beresford in direct bribery; that among 33 persons, £3,000 was distributed in this manner; and that on the part of Sir D. Le Marchant a large portion of the sum of £1,500 was likewise spent in illegal modes of procuring votes.

In Nottingham the sitting member agreed to pay 1,000*l.* for the expenses of the petition against himself. It was agreed that Mr Walter should "be returned" on the vacancy created by Sir J. Larpent's retiring; that fifteen leading liberals should not directly or indirectly oppose Mr Walter; that one of these should discourage all

opposition on the part of ten other electors; and that Sir John Hobhouse should deposit in the hands of two eminent chancery barristers a promissory note for 4,000*l.*, as a security for the honourable performance of those obligations. We subjoin the agreement and note as a sample of these proceedings:—

(Memorandum.—London, 4th May, 1842.)

NOTTINGHAM ELECTION PETITIONS.

- "It is expedient to settle the petitions now pending; and it is agreed that—
- "1. All the petitions shall be abandoned.
 - "2. Within four days from this day one seat shall be vacated.
 - "3. The sum of 1,000*l.* to be paid to Messrs Clarke, Fynmore, and Fladgate, within seven days from this date, in consideration of the expenses incurred in the petition.
 - "4. It is understood that Mr Walter is to be returned at the election resulting from the above-mentioned vacancy; for security whereof, it is agreed that Lord Ranccliffe, Mr Wakefield, Mr John Heard, Mr Enfield, Mr Biddle, Mr Hurd, Mr Birkin, Mr Wells, Mr Hart, Mr Alfred Fellowes, Mr Henry Leaver, Mr Bean, Mr Jonathan Burton, Mr George Bacon, and Mr Aulton, shall not directly or indirectly oppose Mr Walter at such election, and that in addition, Mr Wakefield shall discourage all opposition on the part of the persons named in the list copied on the other side of this paper.
 - "5. That a promissory note for 4,000*l.*, signed by Sir John Cam Hobhouse or Sir George G. De H. Larpent, at one month from this date, shall be this day deposited with Messrs Cocks, Biddulph, and Co., bankers, London; and that James Bacon, Esq., and Sutton Sharpe, Esq., shall decide whether the above conditions have been honourably fulfilled; and if such referees (or, in case of their disagreement, an umpire appointed by them) shall decide that such conditions have not been honourably fulfilled, then the promissory note in question shall be handed to Mr Walter, or returned to Sir John Cam Hobhouse or Sir George G. De H. Larpent if such conditions have been honourably fulfilled.

DYSON, HALL, and PARKES,

Agents to Sir J. C. Hobhouse and Sir George G. De H. Larpent.

"W. M. FLADGATE, for the petitioners and Mr Walter."

On the other side of the paper.

"Mr Carver, Mr J. Rogers, Dr Pigot, Mr Oldknow, Mr Cartwright, Mr G. Gill, Mr Roberts senior, Mr Roberts junior, Mr R. Sands, Mr H. Frearson.

"DYSON, HALL, and PARKES. W. M. FLADGATE."

(Promissory Note.)

London, 4th May, 1842.

"4,000*l.* One month after date I promise to pay to my own order the sum of 4,000*l.* for value received.

JOHN C. H.

"At Messrs Jones, Lloyd, and Co., bankers, London.

"Messrs Cocks, Biddulph, and Co., bankers, London."

"The annexed promissory note for 4,000*l.*, given by the Right Honourable Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Baronet, is to be delivered up to James Bacon, Esq., and Sutton Sharpe, Esq., on demand made by them to you.

DYSON, HALL, and P."

"4th May, 1842. Dear Sirs—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your check for 1,000*l.* for share of costs as arranged.

Yours very faithfully,

"W. M. FLADGATE, for partner and self.

"Messrs Dyson, Hall, and Parkes."

It is further proved that Hobhouse and Larpent spent £12,000, part of which was expended in direct bribery, part in treating and other unlawful proceedings. Mr Walter and the other tory spent in the same way, between £4,000 and £5,000—further bribery being stopped by success appearing obviously hopeless on the eve of the polling. The corruption of this town, numbering 5,400 electors, is stated to have been of long standing; but to have been "particularly developed" at the election of April, 1841, when Walter beat Larpent.

At Lewes one sitting member withdrew, from fear of detection of bribery. The scrutiny before the committee was so arranged that Mr Fitzroy got the seat, and several actions and indictments were withdrawn. The principals were cognizant of the whole arrangement. It is further proved that, with a constituency of 850, Messrs Harford and Elphinstone spent between them £5,000, of which £2,000 went in treating, and from £1,200 to £1,500 in direct bribery. The tory candidates appear to have spent £2,000; of which Mr Fitzroy acknowledges that part went in treating.

At Reading it was agreed that a seat should be vacated, and that the conservative members "should use their utmost endeavours to secure the election" of the radical petitioner, "without opposition, and induce the conservative electors of the borough of Reading to do the same." Mr Russell and Lord Chelsea pledged themselves to pay Mr Mills £2,000 in the event of his not being returned. In order to secure a majority Mr C. Russell and Lord Chelsea appear to have spent about £5,000 or £6,000. Both these gentlemen assert positively that none was spent in direct bribery; but they admit that it could not have been spent legally: and how it was spent their agent will not tell. The agents of the opposite party speak in positive terms of their bribery and treating. He and his friends deny bribery on the part of the liberal candidate, Mr Mills; but they admit that he spent £1,600, and much of that improperly.

At Penryn each party spent £4,000; and each party is clearly shown to have bribed extensively.

At Bridport there were a multitude of compromises. Mr Warburton compromised with Mr Cochrane, first his own seat, and then Mr Mitchell's. Then Mr Cochrane compromised anew with certain electors prepared to oppose him on the vacancy created by Mr Warburton. Then he compromised Mr Mitchell's seat back to him, in violation of his compromise with Mr Warburton. Then Mr Mitchell and he compromised actions and indictments against each other. Here also bribery was rife. Mr Warburton spent £2,166, of which £700 was expended in a dinner, which the committee reprobate. Of direct bribery Mr Warburton most solemnly denied any cognizance; nor does it appear by the report that there is any reason for supposing him guilty of it. Mr Mitchell spent £3,300, part in direct bribery, more in treating commenced without his cognizance, but allowed by him after he was aware that it was going on. Mr Cochrane and his agents refused to state how much money he spent, or how he spent it; but the committee take his silence on all matters criminatory of himself, as decisive proof of guilt, and report that they have no doubt that on his side, as well as Mr Mitchell's, there was "extensive and systematic bribery."

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

At the usual weekly meeting of the council, held at the society's rooms in Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday last, the following business was transacted:—

A sub-committee appointed for the purpose of framing rules and regulations for the establishment of a news room in Birmingham, in connexion with the National Complete Suffrage Union, made their report, which was ordered to be taken into consideration.

The chairman was requested to invite H. Edwards, of Manchester, to deliver a lecture on complete suffrage in Birmingham in the course of the ensuing week.

Letters were read from the following places detailing the progress of

the movement, many of which were of the most cheering character: namely—Reading, Colchester, Kendal, Westbury, Exeter, Amersham, Tunbridge, Leeds, Nottingham, Dumfries, Yeovil, and Plymouth.

Several interesting letters were read from Mr H. Vincent, and Mr Beggs, of Nottingham, in reference to the forthcoming election at that place.

A communication has been opened with an intelligent gentleman in the south-west of Scotland, who has undertaken to organise measures to introduce the Union into several counties in his own neighbourhood; and a highly qualified lecturer and agent, who has volunteered his services, is on the point of starting on a tour, which promises to result in a large addition to the numbers of the Union.

On Monday evening the hall of the National association, No 242 A, Holborn, was opened by a public festival, when upwards of 400 members and friends of the association, including a great many ladies, took tea in the hall. Mr Leader, M.P., presided on the occasion, and amongst the company we noticed Mr Fox, the unitarian minister; Mr Thomas, the barrister; Mr Lovett, Mr Saul, Mr Vincent, Mr Hetherington, Mr Cleave, Mr Parry, &c., &c. Mr Leader, in an impressive address, proposed the following sentiment:—"The people; may all men perceive it to be their duty to investigate the causes of social misery and political oppression; and may they be speedily united in the holy endeavour to make their country prosperous, enlightened, virtuous, and free."

He rejoiced that they had, by the establishment of this hall, made a practical effort to carry out complete the political education of the people. He had often heard it stated in the house of Commons, that that house was the seat of intelligence and of high moral worth [oh]. He had denied in the house, and he denied it again there, and he was justified in having done so, upon the admission of the House itself—for they now had it upon a report of a committee of that House, that there were men in that house who held their seats by means of the most profligate and corrupt practices [hear]. The country owed a debt of gratitude to Mr Roebuck for the bold and skilful way in which he brought forward this gross delinquency, and for the manner in which he had exposed it to the eyes of the world [loud cheering]. He did not think the bill which had been introduced into parliament by Lord John Russell would have the effect of putting down bribery [hear, hear]. It could not be efficacious so long as the constituency of the country was upon a narrow and contracted basis, and so long as the franchise remained unequalled.

Mr Lovett read letters from Colonel Thompson, Mr T. Duncombe, M.P., Sir J. Easthope, M.P., Dr Bowring, M.P., the Earl of Radnor, Mr Sharman Crawford, M.P., Mr W. Ellis, M.P., Mr Williams, M.P., Mr Villiers, M.P., Mr Elphinstone, M.P., Gen. De Lacy Evans, &c., &c., all expressing their regret at not being able to be present; but declaring, at the same time, their sympathy in the objects of the association. The following excellent sentiments were subsequently proposed, and were spoken to by Mr Lovett, Mr Vincent, Dr Epps, Mr Hetherington, and other gentlemen:—

"May our rulers and legislators soon be made responsible to the people; may class legislation be destroyed, political corruption removed, and unjust laws abolished; and may the objects of rational legislation be speedily realised, namely, the promotion of industry and the just diffusion of its blessings, the prevention of crime, the restraining of evil doers, and the encouraging of those who do well.

"May all reformers perceive the importance of education, the best instrument for effecting liberty, the surest guarantee for securing it; the best foundation of good laws, good morals, national prosperity, and individual happiness.

"The National association for promoting the political and social improvement of the people; may their objects be generally appreciated, and their just intentions speedily realised.

"The press, may it speedily become pure and unfettered, an honest herald of truth, a bold assertor of right, and an unflinching defender of justice."

The great object of the National association is to create and extend an enlightened public opinion in favour of the people's charter, and by every just and peaceful means secure its enactment, so that the industrious classes may be placed in possession of the franchise—the most important step to all political and social reformation; and with this view they propose to appoint missionaries to visit the different districts of the kingdom, to explain the objects of the association, and to promote an effective organisation to carry out those objects. The building itself is admirably adapted for the purposes of the association. It is capable of affording accommodation to at least 1,000 persons; and connected with it are various apartments which it is intended shall be used as libraries, industrial schools, &c. The hall is to be used, like others which it is proposed to erect or purchase, as infant, preparatory, and high schools; in which the children shall be educated on the most approved plans the association can devise; embracing physical, mental, moral, and political instruction; and used of an evening by adults for public lectures on physical, moral, and political science; for readings, discussions, musical entertainments, and such other healthful and rational recreations as may serve to instruct and cheer the industrious classes after their hours of toil. This is altogether a new feature in the condition of the working classes, and a bright and most cheering instance of their attachment to the cause of education and social order. Let those who are so fond of libeling, by the wholesale, our labouring population, turn to this institution, and see whether they can discover in its establishment the elements of social and political ruin.

The London members of the National association held their usual meeting last week, at the Globe, Shoe-lane, Mr B. Hugget in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, and the admission of members concluded, several ladies and gentlemen were put in nomination for election at the next meeting. Messrs R. Moone and Dyer were appointed scrutineers, for the ballot for the directors. Mr C. H. Neesom moved, "That the next meeting of the association be held in the hall of the National association;" which being seconded by Mr Bennett was unanimously adopted. The scrutineers reported that the election had fallen upon the following gentlemen:—Messrs Elt, C. H. Neesom, Hophy, and Bennet; when the meeting adjourned.

On Saturday evening Mr Solly delivered a very excellent and powerful address at the Town hall in Wellington, Somerset, to a meeting well attended for the shortness of the notice, upon the causes of the present distress of the people; and after giving a most harrowing account of the state of destitution of the working classes, in an address replete with elegance and sound reasoning, urged upon his audience the necessity of an increase of the suffrage, as an only means of at once and for ever removing the incubus lying and preying upon the vitals of the nation, produced by the evils arising from class legislation. The speaker was frequently interrupted in the course of his address by the cheers of his audience, and the enthusiasm which prevailed proved to

demonstration, that the sentiments of the lecturer found a warm response in the hearts of his hearers.

On Tuesday evening the Rev. H. Solly, of Yeovil, delivered a lecture at the Public hall, Taunton, to a numerous attendance, on the distressed condition of the working classes, the evils of class legislation, the principles of complete suffrage, and the necessity of a full, fair, and free representation of all classes in parliament. The lecture was received with loud applause. W. BEADON, Esq., being called upon, addressed a few observations to the meeting, and stated that a society had been formed in Taunton for the promotion of an extension of the suffrage, and which holds its meetings at the Public hall on the first Tuesday in each month. The Rev. Mr Solly delivered a second lecture on the above subjects, on Friday evening, to a very crowded audience.

On Monday evening, the 18th instant, a very numerous and respectable meeting was held at New Basford, near Nottingham, in connexion with the complete suffrage movement. Mr W. Taylor was unanimously called to the chair, and opened the business in a short but appropriate speech. He alluded to the great distress at present pressing down all classes of her Majesty's subjects, and recommended to the attention of the meeting those great principles which the Suffrage Association was organised to agitate, as a proper remedy. He felt, in common with many of his class, the necessity of effort to release society from the fetters which enthralled it, and he had felt it to be his duty to lend his influence to those principles which, when calmly considered, were entitled to the respect of every man wishing to see his country prosperous, and industry rewarded. He had great pleasure in introducing Mr H. Vincent, and could bear his unaffected testimony to the ability, zeal, and moderation, which characterised his advocacy of the question, and concluded by requesting earnest attention to Mr Vincent. Mr Vincent then addressed the meeting for about an hour and a half, vindicating the rights of the millions, and exhibiting the fearful evils of class legislation with great force and fidelity.

A meeting of the members and friends of the Nottingham Complete Suffrage association was held in Salem chapel, Barker gate, to hear a lecture from Mr Henry Vincent on the subject of union. Mr Samuel Bean, the president, took the chair. Mr Vincent gave one of his powerful addresses, which excited the deepest interest. The meeting was crowded to excess, and numbers were unable to obtain admission. There is a growing interest in the movement, but the middle classes do not seem cordially to participate in the activity; it seems as if they will stand indulging in apprehensions about the dangers of democracy, until they are utterly prostrate beneath the iron heel of aristocracy. It is now the time to be up and doing. Above 50 names were enrolled on Thursday evening last.

On Tuesday evening last a numerous meeting was held at the Lecture hall, Derby, to hear an address from Mr Vincent, "on the justice and policy of extending political rights to the working classes." The hall was crowded to excess, and a great number of middle class men were present. The Rev. Noah Jones was unanimously called to the chair. He stated the pleasure he felt on witnessing such a large assembly of his fellow-men met together to listen to the glorious principles of liberty which would be enunciated by his friend Henry Vincent. He felt he need not make a speech, but before he introduced Mr Vincent, he was proud to have the pleasure of introducing Mr Thomas Beggs, the secretary of the Nottingham Complete Suffrage association. Mr Beggs, who was warmly received, addressed the meeting in an eloquent and impressive manner. He showed the healthy change which had been effected in Nottingham by a union of the two important classes, and said that had not the Complete Suffrage association been in existence, Mr Walter would now have been member for Nottingham. Mr Vincent then came forward, and was received with repeated cheering. He spoke for nearly two hours, and was listened to with the deepest attention, and warmly applauded throughout. We cannot pretend to give even an abstract of his address in our confined limits. At the close of the meeting many of the middle classes joined the Complete Suffrage association. A correspondent of the *British Statesman* says—

"We were pleased at the presence of so many of our leading and influential reformers, and at the orderly conduct of the whole meeting. Great appeared to be the good that was done. Thanks were moved to Mr Vincent by an influential middle class gentleman, and seconded by Mr Brigg, a chartist, and carried by stormy acclamation. Mr Vincent briefly returned thanks for the handsome and affectionate reception they had given him. He assured them that he had not come to Derby to court their cheers, or to flatter the prejudices of either the middle or working classes. He had come to do his duty to the cause of truth; and the best thanks they could give him would be affectionate co-operation to carry out the principles he had inculcated. Thanks were moved to the Rev. Chairman by Mr Vincent, and the immense assembly separated. The Complete Suffrage Union will soon be very powerful here. A majority of the liberal electors are known to be in favour of views somewhat akin to complete suffrage; and the mass of the working classes are, of course, its enthusiastic devotees."

The monthly meeting of the Kendal Complete Suffrage association was held on Tuesday week, when a considerable addition was made to its numbers. The subject that chiefly occupied the attention of the meeting was, the expediency of mixing up with the question of complete suffrage that of a repeal of the corn laws. All present, while they differed considerably as to the amount of benefit a repeal of the corn laws would yield, joined in their condemnation. It was, however, the opinion of many present, that to ask such an assemblage of—the proper term would be illegal—gentlemen as compose the bribery parliament to yield in the instance of the corn laws, supposing the request were complied with, would be but tantamount to buying off the robber at one turn of the road and yet leave yourself subject to his attack at the next. Either turn the robber into an honest man, or turn him off the road; either would do, but the last the best. It is expected that the corn laws will serve as a topic for discussion at the next meeting. Some seem to think these laws are author of every ill that flesh is heir to. No doubt they are a grievous wrong. They, however, cherish but a forlorn hope who would expect to satisfy the unrepresented millions of England with an additional "mess of pottage" while they withhold from them their "birth-right." The working—aye, and starving—millions of England are on the right scent; let them follow on to the death! To gain a repeal of the corn laws is worthy of every reasonable effort. Let any reasonable man ask himself the question—Will parliament, as at present constituted, grant it? No, certainly. It may be retorted—Will parliament grant complete suffrage, then—a larger and more comprehensive measure? To this

it may be said, It will not be willingly granted; but can the honest, incontestible claims of combined millions, bent on securing the acknowledgment of their claim to be something better than the feudal serf or the Russian boor, be withstood? It is their own fault if they are. No question can ever enlist the power which the complete suffrage question has already at command. I, of course, include the chartist body, all anxiously striving for the attainment of the same ends. When "the pear is ripe" there will be no lack of hands to pluck it.—*From a Correspondent.*

In the manufacturing districts, a union is being effected between the middle and the working classes, and large bodies are beginning to be organised for political objects. Nor is Boston behind in the movement; the working men of the borough have a numerous increasing association; and already from their funds they have had the services of one lecturer, who last week delivered a sensible address to the association on the new movement for an extension of the suffrage, and its probable consequences. We understand that the Boston Reform or Suffrage association are likely to have another lecturer soon. All parties of political reformers are now making common cause against toryism and its maladministration. The little bird has already begun to sing its favourite air that "by and bye the people will be stronger!"—*Stamford Mercury.*

The Complete Suffrage association of Bath have forwarded a temperate but convincing address to the Anti-corn-law conference, on the suffrage question, which we are sorry our limits will not allow us to give. Allowing the value of the past exertions of the League, they appeal to their common sense whether there is any probability of gaining any relief from the present parliament, and exhort them at once to join the working classes in their efforts for parliamentary reform, as the only hope of preventing civil anarchy, and the surest and quickest way of obtaining the repeal of the corn laws. The association have also made an earnest appeal to the inhabitants of Bath, calling upon them to join the Union as the only means of political regeneration.

At the weekly meeting of the Bristol Complete Suffrage association it was unanimously resolved that the ante-room of the Hall of Science should be taken for the purpose of holding their weekly meetings. It was stated, that in the case of public meetings of the association the hall, capable of accommodating 4,000 persons, could be procured.

An adjourned meeting of the friends of complete suffrage took place on Wednesday evening, at Wilcke's Temperance hotel, Royal arcade, Newcastle; but there was only a thin muster, many of its leading promoters being absent on a temperance trip to Edinburgh by steam vessel. Several of the chartists, however, were present, who called Mr James Sinclair to the chair; and on the motion of Mr Cockburn, it was resolved:—"That this meeting has no confidence in the parties who signed the requisition convening the meeting on Wednesday last, and who agreed to form a branch of the Sturge movement."—*Gateshead Observer.*

On Friday last a lecture was delivered in front of the Town hall, Great Torrington, Devon, on the distress of the country, and on the principles of general suffrage, by a clever mechanic from the north. The address was received with evident satisfaction by a large concourse of respectable people.

At the meeting of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Union last week, a letter was read from Mr Jopp, secretary to the Registration committee for the liberal interest, in reply to the queries put to Sir James Gibson Craig by this committee, on the subject of registration. A lengthened conversation took place, on the propriety of printing a placard, calling on those electors, members of the Union and others friendly to its objects, to enrol without delay, and with the committee now sitting in Hunter square. It was agreed that such a placard be printed and posted, provided that the Registration committee consent to the correspondence just adopted, to be part of the bill. Letters were read from London, Glasgow, and Kirkcaldy—after which, a sub-committee was appointed to draw up a document, to be placed in the hands of every member, containing the principles, objects, and rules of the Union, and it was resolved to prepare cards of membership. Mr Anderson moved, that Messrs Niel, Hamilton, Green, and Murray, be added to the committee. It was further agreed that meetings of the committee be held every Wednesday evening.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

TWENTY HOUSES CONSUMED.—The various fire offices in the metropolis received, on Friday, information of the following deplorable fires:—On Tuesday morning, soon after three o'clock, a fire was discovered raging amongst a pile of stabling, situate in North Arlington, near Bridport, which afterwards extended to a row of houses in the neighbourhood, owing to the roofs being thatched. The engines belonging to the town were instantly brought to play upon the flames, but for a length of time they were of little effect, and the flames were not arrested until eleven houses were wholly consumed. None of the tenants are insured, consequently their losses will be severely felt. The buildings are insured in the Sun fire office. On the following morning (Wednesday), a large fire happened at Beaminster, supposed to be the work of an incendiary, which consumed four houses and other premises that adjoined.—On Thursday an extensive fire occurred in the village of Twymill, in the northern part of Devonshire, occasioned by a stack of new hay overheating. The premises were entirely burned down, together with four dwellings attached to the farm. Only a portion of the property is insured.

EXTENSIVE IMPORTATION OF CORN.—No less than sixty seven vessels passed the Sound for England, between the 5th and 12th of the present month, with wheat.—*Leeds Mercury.*

GUANO.—Guano is already beginning to form rather an important item in our imports from Peru, and it is to be hoped from its beneficial properties upon the soil, will be remunerative to our agriculturists as well as to our merchants. A great drawback to the South American republics hitherto has been the restrictive limit of their exportable produce, and the consequent necessity they have laboured under of shipping specie and bullion to meet their foreign engagements. The countries of the vast continent of South America are, however, not rich alone in mines, but also in agricultural resources, and it would be as well for us as for the republics themselves if greater efforts were

made to develop and improve them. The loans for South America raised in England are of some magnitude, and no better way of ensuring the payment of the interest on them could possibly be found than the strengthening the commercial relations.—*Morning Advertiser*.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—The new station at Swindon is the only place at which refreshments can now be obtained between London and Bristol, but ample time will be afforded to each train for such purpose. The new erections are of great extent and novelty, and surpass any others of a like character in the kingdom. Each building, for there are two, one on either side of the railway, is 200 feet in length, and they are connected by an elegant covered bridge across the line of railway. The material used is stone from the neighbouring quarries. One peculiar feature in the external appearance is a verandah surrounding each building, projecting horizontally nearly 20 feet, without any vertical or apparent support, and which affords a covering to an elevated platform or promenade, the floor of which is of asphalt and stone, applied in an ingenious manner. The interior arrangements present the conveniences of a first-rate hotel. On the ground floor are the first and second class refreshment rooms, which are divided by marble counters for each class of passengers. The decorations and finishing of these are truly magnificent.

METROPOLITAN RECREATION.—A few of the Gravesend steam boats having lowered their fare to sixpence, upward of 7,000 persons visited Rosherville gardens last week, and the railway steamers from Blackwall, by the old fare, landed 10,000 at the town and terrace piers, Gravesend, on Sunday. The number of persons landed at Greenwich exceeded 30,000 on Sunday; and as many visited Chelsea, Putney, and Richmond, by the steam boats. Upwards of 10,000 also landed at the Woolwich and Charlton piers.

BRAZIL SUGAR AS MANURE.—The house of Moore and Co., Liverpool (of which Alderman Moore, a tory, is principal), having applied to the Earl of Ripon to revive the foreign sugar trade, by allowing Brazil sugar to be imported duty free for feeding pork and as manure, the board of trade have answered that they "cannot recommend the adoption of any such partial admission of foreign sugar." Hear this, sugar at a penny halfpenny a pound!

DUTIES ON COFFEE.—An unusual quantity of coffee has this week paid duty in Liverpool, under the new tariff. A considerable quantity, we understand, was cleared directly from the ship. We presume the importers calculate on a speedy demand in consequence of the stocks of country dealers having fallen very low. The following is the quantity of coffee, duty paid, at this port, from the 11th to the 14th of July inclusive:—West India, 367,648 lb.; East India, 113,343 lb.; Foreign, 72,058 lb. Total, 553,049 lb., or 246 tons, 17½ cwt, 22 lb.—*Liverpool Standard*.

EVASION OF THE PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.—Although the qualification of 300*l.* a year for a burgess, and 600*l.* a year for a knight of the shire, arising out of land, is sworn to as possessed by each of the 658 members of the lower House, it is a reputed accredited fact, that there are some representatives who have no such qualification, and others whose qualifications are constituted and conferred in a peculiar manner. For instance, there is at this moment a member of parliament who is also a fellow of a college in the university of Oxford. As a member of parliament, he swears to a qualification of 300*l.* a year; as a fellow of his college, he avers that he has not 100*l.* a year in land, as that would disqualify him from holding his fellowship, yet he retains both his seat and fellowship.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

THE PENNY POSTAGE.—At the expiration of two years from the introduction of the penny postage, Mr Rowland Hill's engagement with the government will have expired. That gentleman, however, will still be retained, at his present salary, and will have apartments fitted up in St Martin's-le-grand. This circumstance proves the beneficial nature of the penny postage measure, and shows how hypocritical the members of the present government are when they deny it, and condemn the late government for adopting it.—*Globe*.

MONEY MARKET.—Gold was in a feverish state, owing to the process of sweating, and parties who expected to find money extremely heavy, were surprised at its uncommon lightness, which they only perceived when bringing it into the market. Sovereigns with the coupons (or little pieces) cut out, were freely offered for 20*s.*, and as freely declined, and many persons made fruitless endeavours to turn the scale by filling in the crevices.—*Punch*.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

On Wednesday, July 20, a new, neat, and commodious congregational chapel was opened for divine worship, at Hockley, Essex. The sermons were preached by the Rev. R. Burls of Maldon, and the Rev. J. Carter of Braintree. At six o'clock addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs Burls, Carter, Pinkstone, and Bodley. Hockley chapel is a village station connected with the church and congregation under the pastorate of the Rev. E. F. Bodley, Rochford. The Rev. Messrs Pinkstone of North Petherton, Jacob of Walkering, Balme of Market Deeping, with other friends interested in village preaching, took part in the services of the day.

Last week another of the ten churches to be built in Bethnal-green, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of London, in the presence of a numerous congregation. This church, which makes the fourth, is situated in Bishop Bonner's fields, near the Old Ford road, is a neat structure, with a spire similar to that of All Souls, Marylebone, and is dedicated to St. James the Less.

An interesting service to supplicate the divine blessing upon the union lately formed between the independent church at Bond street, Leicester, and the Rev. J. Smedmore (from Coward college), was held on Wednesday last. An introductory discourse was delivered by Mr Miall, the late pastor of the church, on the great principles of nonconformity viewed in relation to us as men, as citizens, and as Christians; using as a motto the words, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye?" The Reverend Messrs Toller of Kettering, and Mursell of Leicester, offered up prayer on behalf of the pastor and the people; after which the Rev. Mr Curwen of Reading, preached from the words, "Make full proof of thy ministry," explaining and illustrating what is essential to the right fulfilment of the precept. On Sunday

Mr Toller conducted the services with especial reference to the duties of the people.

The Rev. Jos. Ford has resigned his charge at the independent chapel, Long Melford, Suffolk.

The annual examination of the students educated in the Blackburn Independent academy, took place in the Academy house, Ainsworth street, on the 14th and 15th ult. Very favourable reports have just been received from the Rev. J. Griffin, and the Rev. R. Fletcher, who conducted the examinations in the theological and classical departments.

Mr Samuel Martin of Cheltenham has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastoral office at Westminster chapel, and intends commencing his labours on the first Sabbath in September.

On Thursday, July 14th, the Rev. Samuel Williams was ordained to the pastoral office over the independent church and congregation assembling at Crippenstyle, Dorset. The Rev. Mr Evans, late of Birdbush, introduced the morning services by reading and prayer; the Rev. T. Evans, of Shaftesbury, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. Mr Birch, of Fordingbridge, proposed the usual questions, and received the young minister's confession of faith; the Rev. T. Durant, of Poole, offered up the ordination prayer, accompanied with imposition of hands; the charge to the minister was given by the Rev. George Harris, of Ringwood; and the people were addressed by the Rev. H. A. Brown, M.A., of Poole. In the evening the Rev. J. Barfett, of Salisbury, preached from John vii. 37.

There are in London and its vicinity about 200,000 Catholics; Liverpool, 80,000; Manchester and Salford, 60,000; Glasgow and its vicinity, 50,000; Preston, 17,000; Edinburgh, 14,000; Newcastle and Gateshead, 12,000; Paisley, 10,000; Birmingham, 9000; Leeds, 8000; Blackburn, 7000; Bradford, 7000; Bolton, 6000; Sheffield, 6000; Dundee, 6000; Wigan, 6000; Derby, 5000; Norwich, 5000; Huddersfield, 5000; Bristol, 5000; Bath, 4000; Hull, 4000; York, 3000; Greenock, 3000; North and South Shields, 3000; Aberdeen, 2500; Dumfries, 2000.

BIRTH.

July 15, at Heathfield terrace, Swansea, the wife of the Rev. D. Rhys Stephen, of Newport, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

July 20, by license, at the independent chapel, Townley street, Macclesfield, by the Rev. S. Bowen, Mr William Bradbury Robinson, to Miss Elizabeth Plant, both of Macclesfield.

July 21, at the baptist chapel, Hammersmith, by the Rev. D. Katterns, Mr William Otridge, to Eliza, second daughter of Mr James White.

DEATH.

July 18, at Deal, Charlotte, the wife of B. Stephen, Serle's place, aged 53.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, July 22.

INSOLVENTS.

Knight, Stephen, Mount Pleasant farm, West Hoathley, Sussex, cattle dealer July 21.

McGakey, John, Liverpool, printer, July 21.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Scale, Richard Burgess, Halstead, Essex, farmer.

BANKRUPTS.

Fawcus, Henry and Robert, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, timber merchants and ship and insurance brokers, to surrender August 4, Sept. 2: solicitors, Mr Scaife, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Messrs Swain and Co., 6, Frederick's place, Old Jewry, London. Mills, John, now or late of London wall, City, canal carrier and wharfinger, August 1, September 2: solicitors, Mr J. Wood, jun., Woodbridge, Suffolk, and Messrs Waterman and Co., 23, Essex street, Strand.

Rushton, Samuel, Nottingham, ironmonger, July 29, Sept. 2: solicitors, Mr Yallop, 8, Furnival's inn, London, and Messrs W. and S. Parsons, Nottingham.

Seddon, William, and Jordan, Francis, St Helen's, Lancashire, millers, August 3, Sept. 2: solicitors, Messrs Battye and Co., Chancery lane, London, and Messrs Crump and Hassall, Liverpool.

Skiff, George, Malvern Wells, Worcestershire, and late of the Cannop works, St Briavel's, Gloucestershire, and formerly of Birmingham, cider merchant, vinegar distiller, and chemist, August 1, Sept. 2: solicitors, Messrs Clarke and Medcalf, Lincoln's inn fields, London, Mr Reece, Ledbury, and Mr F. T. Elgie, Worcester.

Timmis, Charles, Stone, Staffordshire, flint grinder, August 13, Sept. 2: solicitors, Mr G. Smith, Southampton buildings, London, and Mr W. Harding, Burslem.

Walsh, John, and Halford, Elijah, Nottingham, tailors, July 29, Sept. 2: solicitors, Mr F. Lees, Nottingham, and Mr Taylor, 18, Featherstone buildings, London.

Yablonsky, Lawrence, Birmingham, jeweler, August 1, Sept. 2: solicitors, Mr T. Harding, Birmingham, and Mr Stafford, 13, Buckingham street, Strand, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Charles, John, jun., Glasgow, bookbinder, July 26, August 16.

Craigie, Andrew, Pettiesmuir, near Dunfermline, ship owner, July 25, August 15.

Irons, David, Dundee, grocer, July 29, August 19.

Lawson, William, Dundee, grocer, July 27, August 24.

Nichol and Taylor, Edinburgh, lithographers, July 27, August 17.

Pratt, Thomas, Cupar-Fife, underwriter, July 29, August 16.

Scott, James, Drumachurn, Glenshee, farmer, July 29, August 19.

Smith, Thomas Peat, Blairgowrie, merchant, August 1, 22.

DIVIDENDS.

August 13, Crossfield, 91, Whitechapel road, Middlesex, and of Leyburne, Kent, scrivener—August 13, Palliser, 23, Moorgate street, City, saddler—August 13, Smith, Lawrence lane, City, woolen warehouseman—August 15, Crook, George yard, Long-acre, Middlesex, livery stable keeper—August 15, Butler, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, butcher—August 12, J. and W. K. Robson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocers—August 11, Green, Birmingham, glass manufacturer—August 15, Beal, Sandwich, Kent, hayman—August 13, Bird, Coventry, fringe manufacturer—August 16, Harris, Faversham, Kent, grocer—August 18, S. J., and J. Chadwick, Heywood, Lancashire, cotton spinners—August 12, Gardiner, Bristol, brewer—Nov. 25, Daniell, formerly of Treillick, Cornwall, and now or late of Boulogne, copper smelter—Sept. 1, Taylor, Brixthelmstone, Sussex, bookseller.

CERTIFICATES—AUGUST 12.

Thompson, Wylam, Northumberland, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, iron manufacturer—Robottom, Holborn hill, City, tavern keeper—Laycock, Colne, Lancashire, tallow chandler—Lamprell, Sherborne lane, City, builder—Piggott, Goldsmith street, Wood street, City, carpet warehouseman—Quaife and Co., Fulham, Middlesex, brewers.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Holland and Beresford, Glossop, Derbyshire, cotton spinners—Stocks and Jackson, Heaton Mersey and Manchester, Lancashire, bleachers—Illingworth and Duncan, Waterloo place, Pall mall, wine merchants—Plaxton and Robinson, late of Beverley, Yorkshire, linen drapers—Shepherd and States, Southampton, innkeepers—Pilling and Curry, Liverpool, commission merchants—W. G. K., and H. Stanton, Fordington, Dorsetshire, woolstaplers (so far as regards H. Stanton)—R. H., J. S., and W. R. Greg, of Quarry-bank and Bollington, Cheshire, and of Lancaster, Caton, and Bury, Lancashire, spinners—Jones and Co., Liverpool, block makers (so far as regards S. Jones)—S. and W. Jones, Liverpool, boat builders—R. Bower, of New mills, Derbyshire, and E. Bower, of Disley and Marple, Cheshire, coal dealers—W. and H. Davis, Worcester, plumbers—Fyson and Hilton, Bedford, tobacco manufacturers—Hobson and Walker, York and Leeds, carriers—Denison and Co., Yeading, Yorkshire—Bowser and Penhey, Belmont house, Wandsworth road, Vauxhall, beer sellers—T. and J. N. Sargent, Nottingham, coal dealers—M. Pritchard, of Frees, and F. W. Pritchard, of Hodnet, Shropshire, mercers—Routledge and Turner, Conduit street, Bond street, milliners—Wear

and Robertson, Bishopwearmouth, Durham, common brewers—Greenwood and Johnson, Soyland, Yorkshire, cotton spinners—Mayes and Pank, Blacksmiths' Arms, Back Church lane, St George's east, licensed victuallers—Williams and Goodison, 1, Little Tower street, City, coffee brokers—Cannon and Son, Tewin mill, Hertfordshire, millers—Morris and Wilson, Russell street, Blackwall, carpenters—Fawcett and Co., Liverpool, iron founders (so far as regards W. B. Preston).

Tuesday, July 26.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—
Capel Cain, otherwise Capel pen y stryd, Trawsfynydd, Merionethshire. John Pritchard, superintendent registrar.

INSOLVENT.

BYERS, ROBERT, 29, Pitfield street, Hoxton, laceman, July 25.

BANKRUPTS.

CHAPMAN, GEORGE, Pullin's place, Islington, cowkeeper, August 2, Sept. 6: solicitor, Mr Williams, Alfred place, Bedford square.

COTTON, JOHN, Nottingham, and of Sheephead, Leicestershire, hosier, August 3, Sept. 6: solicitors, Mr Rowland Yallop, 8, Furnival's inn, London, and Messrs W. and S. Parsons, jun., Nottingham.

DICKINS, JOHN, of Northampton, Upholsterer and paper hanger, August 5 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Wing and Twining, Grays-inn-square, London, and Mr Henry Pywell, Northampton.

HODGSON, DANIEL, of Sandwich, Kent, banker, August 16 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Rowland and Young, White Lion-court, Cornhill, London.

LANG, JOHN, ARMITAGE, SAMUEL, REDFEARN, RICHARD, and SYKES, JOHN, of Liversedge, Yorkshire, blanket manufacturers, and scribbling and fulling millers, August 6 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Jaques and Co., 8, Ely-place, London, and Mr William Watts, Dewsbury.

LEIGHTON, ANDREW, of Liverpool, merchant, August 13, and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Vincent and Sherwood, London, and Messrs Littledale and Bardswell, Liverpool.

METCALFE, JAMES, and METCALFE, THOMAS, Cambridge, upholsterers, August 8, Sept. 6: solicitor, Mr Gidley, Earl street, Blackfriars.

MUNDAY, THOMAS HENRY, 9, Fore street, Cripplegate, City, bookseller, August 6, Sept. 6: solicitors, Messrs Nicholson and Parker, 23, Throgmorton street.

RICHARDSON, ELIZABETH FAIRCLOUGH, of Manchester, publican, August 8 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Jaques and Co., 8 Ely-place, London, and Mr Heath, Manchester.

SCOTT, JOHN, of Birmingham, gun maker and manufacturer, August 11 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London, and Messrs Higson and Son, Manchester.

WILKINS, EDWARD, of Swansea, Glamorganshire, linen draper, August 24 and September 6: solicitors, Messrs Williams and David, Swansea.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BENTON, JOHN, of Corliestone, Aberdeenshire, grain merchant, August 1 and 22.

CORSTORPHINE, ANDREW, of Kingsbarns, Fifeshire, banker, July 29 and August 26.

CRAIG, JAMES, sen., and CRAIG, JAMES, jun., of Partick, builders, August 11 and 22.

FORREST, WILLIAM, of Greenock, house-builder, August 4 and 25.

HENDERSON, JOHN CHAELES, and BELFOUR, GEORGE CRAIGIE, of Leith, wine merchants, August 1 and 22.

JACKSON, ROBERT, of Glasgow, Bookseller, August 2 and 23.

KINNON, THOMAS, of Rutherglen, merchant, August 3 and 26.

MARSHALL, GEORGE, of Jedburgh, grocer, July 28 and August 20.

WILSON, ROBERT, of Maxwell town, spirit dealer, August 1 and 20.

DIVIDENDS.

August 18, Biddle, Holborn hill, Middlesex, fishmonger—August 17, Hayward and Moore, 53, Paternoster row, City—August 18, Stallebrass and Middleton, 26, City road, Finsbury square, and 15, Tabernacle walk, St Luke's, timber merchants—August 20, Stephenson, Manchester, coachmaker—August 16, Spence, Knottingley, Yorkshire, innkeeper—August 16, M. W., and J. Redfern, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, file manufacturers—August 18, W. and L. Fulton, Rochdale, Lancashire, cotton spinners—August 19, Marocco, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant—August 19, Aytton and Sanders, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants—August 20, Morris, Gloucester, coachmaker—August 17, Robertson and Co., Liverpool, ship chandlers—August 18, Wilcox and Co., Ulverstone, Lancashire, paper manufacturers—August, 16, Darcy, Sutton, Lancashire, alkali manufacturer—August 16, Grimshaw, Rawcliffe, Yorkshire, draper—August 23, Banks, Manchester, dealer in piano fortes—August 17, Halford, Canterbury, banker—August 19, Webb, Birmingham, tailor—August 17, Ankrett, Walsall, Staffordshire, grocer—August 19, Morgan, Pill, Somersetshire, ship builder—August 17, Molyneux and Witherby, Liverpool, merchants—August 18, Garrow, Liverpool, merchant.

CERTIFICATES—AUGUST 16.

Slater, Marton, Cheshire, banker—Clarke and Lewis, Crown court, Threadneedle street, London, newspaper agents—Long, 5, Palace row, New road, Middlesex, glass merchant.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Hudson and Fann, Nottingham, hosiers—Clayton and Haigh, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, painters—Wyer and Keat, 18, Margaret street, Cavendish square, dress makers—T. and E. Scott, Botolph lane, orange merchants—Roberts and Maynard, 2, Sambrook court, Basinghall street, accountants—Rushton and Bingley, Nottingham, general ironmongers—J. J., and F. Bell, 338, Oxford street, chemists (so far as regards F. Bell)—H. and C. Prosser, 202, Fleet street, City, shell fishmongers—W. and H. Shaw, Birmingham, nail manufacturers—Carr and Humble, Ossett, Yorkshire, manufacturing chemists—Rennie and Co., 31, Charing cross, anti-coal-monopoly company (so far as regards Lewis and Webb)—Norton, Manchester, and Lambe, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, mercers—Heyworth and Co., Oakwood mill, Romiley, Cheshire, cotton spinners (so far as regards Pearce and Wright)—Quick and Cox, Southampton, brewers—Kingston and Gwyer, Newport, Monmouthshire, sail makers—Bettom and Davies, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, maltsters—Morgan and Thomas, Cum Turch, Breconshire, grocers—Wormald and Marriott, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, alkali manufacturers—Passman and Frankland, Manchester, commission agents—W. J., and G. Heppell, Redheugh, Durham, ironfounders (so far as regards G. Heppell)—Wigney and Blenkhorn, Huddersfield, hotel keepers—Daman and Co., Romsey, Southampton, attorneys (so far as regards Daman)—Cooper and Houghton, Manchester, wine merchants—Ryan and Co., Liverpool, timber merchants—Collier and Co., Salford, Lancashire, machine makers—Wood and Bishop, 149, Minories, City, cabinet makers—Flemming and Pool, Salter's hall court, Cannon street, City, wholesale stationers—Ogilvie and Pownall, Calne, Wiltshire, surgeons—G. L., and W. Hall, Swallow hill, Yorkshire, vitriol manufacturers—Royds and Co., Rochdale, Lancashire, bankers (so far as regards C. Royds)—Woolcock and Co., Lower Gellydeag, Monmouthshire, chemical manufacturers (so far as regards J. Woolcock).

BRITISH FUNDS.

The English funds are firmer than at the end of the week. A purchase was made in new 3½ per cents by the government broker on Saturday, to the extent of £10,000. Stock has become so scarce that this is sufficient to act upon the market; and greater difficulty is experienced in effecting a loan of stock than one of money, which is exceedingly plentiful, and is not worth more than 1½ per cent for the ordinary period of accommodation. Business continues on a limited scale.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols.....	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	91
1000	90½	90½	90½	91	91	91
3 per cents. Reduced.....	91	91	91	91½	91½	91½
3½ per cents. Reduced.....	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
New 3½ per cent.....	99½	99½	100	100	100	100
Long Annuities.....	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock.....	166½	166½	166½	166	166	166
India Stock.....	218	219	—	249	249	—
Exchequer Bills.....	47 pm	48 pm	48 pm	49 pm	46 pm	46 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.....	—	28 pm	26 pm	—	28 pm	27 pm

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton.....	33½
Birmingham and Derby.....	42½	London and Croydon Trunk ..	12½
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	50	London and Greenwich.....	6
Blackwall.....	9½	Ditto New.....	17
Bristol and Exeter.....	42	Manchester and Birmingham ..	—
Cheltenham and Gt. Western.....	26½	Manchester and Leeds.....	76
Eastern Counties.....	9	Midland Counties.....	69½
Edinburgh and Glasgow.....	48	Ditto Quarter Shares.....	17½
Great North of England.....	75½	North Midland.....	59½
Great Western.....	86½	Ditto New.....	29
Ditto New.....	61½	South Eastern and Dover.....	22½
Ditto Fifties.....	11	South Western.....	62
London and Birmingham.....	179	Ditto New.....	10½
Ditto Quarter Shares.....	31½		

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian.....	109	Mexican.....	36½
Belgian.....	101½	Peruvian.....	16½
Brazilian.....	62½	Portuguese 5 per cents.....	33½
Buenos Ayres.....	—	Ditto 3 per cents.....	19½
Columbian.....	21	Russian.....	114½
Danish.....	82½	Spanish Active.....	21
Dutch 2½ per cents.....	51½	Ditto Passive.....	4½
Ditto 5 per cents.....	101	Ditto Deferred.....	9½

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, July 25.

There was a large supply of English wheat. The trade opened very heavy, and lower prices were accepted for everything but the finest runs, which were taken off at about last week's currency. In foreign wheat, free, bonded, or afloat, very little business has been done, and prices must be quoted 2s. cheaper.

Barley: scarcely supported prices. The very large arrivals of foreign oats have been much pressed on the markets, and where cargoes were getting out of condition, or lay-days about expiring, very low prices have been accepted rather than incur landing charges.

Beans in abundance, and fully 2s. cheaper. Peas dull, and a shade lower; there were a few samples of new white peas, which obtained 39s. to 41s.

	s.	s.		s.	s.		s.	s.
Wheat, Red New	47	to 60	Malt, Ordinary..	45	to 53	Beans, Old.....	34	to 38
Fine.....	61	to 68	Pale.....	56	to 62	Harrow.....	30	to 34
White.....	50	to 60	Peas, Hog.....	28	to 31	Oats, Feed.....	18	to 20
Fine.....	64	to 72	Maple.....	30	to 32	Fine.....	21	to 23
Rye.....	32	to 36	Boilers.....	34	to 38	Poland.....	22	to 25
Barley.....	22	to 26	Beans, Ticks....	27	to 32	Potato.....	22	to 25
Maltling.....	30	to 32						
WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF			DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR		
JULY 22.			SIX WEEKS.			THE PRESENT WEEK.		
Wheat.....	65s.	8d.	Wheat.....	61s.	5d.	Wheat.....	8s.	0d.
Barley.....	28	0	Barley.....	27	4	Barley.....	9	0
Oats.....	22	0	Oats.....	21	8	Oats.....	6	0
Rye.....	38	6	Rye.....	33	5	Rye.....	9	6
Beans.....	34	10	Beans.....	34	4	Beans.....	8	6
Peas.....	35	5	Peas.....	33	10	Peas.....	9	6

SEEDS.

The supply of seeds of this year's growth was small. Of rape there was less offering than last week; still prices had a downward tendency. Carawayseed met a slow demand. Canaryseed was but little inquired after, and was the turn better. In other articles no change whatever occurred.

Linseed, English, sowing 50s. to 55s. per qr	Coriander.....	10s. to 16s. prewt.
Baltic, ditto.....	Old.....	16 .. 18
Ditto, crushing.....	Canary, new.....	80 .. 85
Mediterr. and Odessa..	Extra.....	90 .. 95
Clover, English, red....	Caraway, old.....	48 .. 52
Ditto, white.....	New.....	42 .. 44
Flemish, red.....	Mustard, brown, new	10 .. 15 pr bush.
Ditto, white.....	White.....	9 .. 13
New Hamburg, red....	Trefoil.....	16 .. 32
Ditto, white.....	Rye grass, English...	30 .. 42
Old Hamburg, red....	Scotch.....	18 .. 40
Ditto, white.....	Tares, winter.....	— .. — per qr.
French, red.....	New.....	4 .. 5 pr bush.
Ditto, white.....	Rapeseed, English, new	36½ .. 37½ pr last
Hempseed, small.....	Linseed cakes, English	10½ .. to 10½ 10s.
Large.....	Foreign.....	7½ .. to 7½ 10s.
	Rapeseed cakes.....	5½ .. to 6½ 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, July 25.

In new Irish butter the sales were limited, and the market dull; old was more in demand. The prices have ruled, for new Waterford, at 83s. to 86s.; Clonmel, 85s. to 87s.; Kilkenny 85s. to 86s.; Cork and Limerick, 81s. to 82s. on board: old from 54s. to 64s. Foreign in slow sale: Friesland at 95s. to 98s.; Kiel, 88s. to 92s.; Leer and Embden, 82s. to 84s. Bacon has sold more readily, from 42s. to 52s. per cwt. Bale middles and tierces in more request at fair prices. Lard in better demand, at 1s. to 2s. advance. Hams in moderate demand; prices from 52s. to 66s. In beef and pork rather more doing, but at lower rates.

HOPS, BOROUGH, July 25.

The first pocket of the new crop is very shortly expected to be brought to market, the plantations being considered to look better than they did about the middle of last week, so that the estimated duty has rallied to £140,000. The advices continue to be very favourable, and the market is quiet.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, July 25.

The trade to-day was generally better. The supplies were smaller than last week, and being fresh up were in better condition; very few remained on hand at the close. Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal.....	3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton.....	3 4 .. 4 6	Pork.....	4 0 .. 4 10
Lamb.....	4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday.....	590	11,030	436	287
Monday.....	2,411	29,600	176	368

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, July 25.

	Per 8lbs. by the carcass.		Per 8lbs. by the carcass.
Inferior Beef.....	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Inferior Mutton.....	3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.
Middling ditto.....	3 4 .. 3 6	Middling ditto.....	3 8 .. 3 10
Prime large ditto.....	3 6 .. 3 8	Prime ditto.....	4 0 .. 4 2
Prime small ditto.....	3 8 .. 3 10	Veal.....	3 8 .. 4 2
Large Pork.....	4 0 .. 4 6	Small Pork.....	4 8 .. 4 10
Lamb.....	4s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.		

WOOL, July 25.

There has been less briskness in the demand for English wool during the last week. Prices are about the same.

Down ewes and wethers 0s. 10d. to 0s. 10½d.	Half-bred hogs.....	1s. 0d. to 1s. 0½d.
Down teggs.....	Flannel wool.....	0 8½ .. 1 0
Half-bred wethers.....	Blanket wool.....	0 5 .. 0 7½

HAY, SMITHFIELD, July 23.—At per clover of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay.....	60s. to 80s.	New Clover Hay.....	75s. to 100s.
New ditto.....	50 .. 90	Old ditto.....	95 .. 120
Useful old ditto.....	80 .. 88	Oat Straw.....	36 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	90 .. 95	Wheat Straw.....	38 .. 42

COAL EXCHANGE, July 25.

Hetton's, 20s. 3d.; Stewart's, 20s. 9d.; Lambton's, 20s. 3d.; Caradoc, 20s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 122.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JULY 26.

TEA.—The market was firm, and a good business was transacted. Congou realised 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 8½d.; good common, 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d.; Twankay, common, 1s. 8d.; and good common, 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d.; Hyson, common to mid., 2s. 2d. to 2s. 7d.; good to fine, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 6d. per lb.

COFFEE.—Coffee was in limited request for home consumption, but holders were firm. At auction 3235 bags Singapore Java, and 1862 bags St Domingo, were offered. The former was all taken in, good ord. at 42s., and triage 35s.; the latter partly sold, good ord. at 32s. 6d. to 33s., or 31s. a 32s., being previous rates.

SUGAR.—The sugar market has presented a firm aspect since last week. This afternoon Barbadoes fine yellow fetched 66s. to 67s. 6d., good 64s. to 65s., mid. 61s. 6d. to 63s. 6d. per cwt. Trinidad all sold at full rates; good yellow fetched 64s. to 64s. 6d., good mid. 63s. to 63s. 6d., mid. 60s. to 62s., low mid 59s. per cwt. St Lucia was disposed of at stiff rates: viz., fine yellow at 64s. 6d. to 67s. 6d., good 62s. 6d. to 63s., good mid. 62s., mid. 60s. to 61s., low mid. 59s. to 59s. 6d., mid. strong grey 58s. 6d. to 59s. 6d., and good 63s. per cwt.

TALLOW.—There was little business transacted in Russian tallow, but holders were firm, and obtained 48s. for small parcels of yellow candle on the spot, and 48s. 9d. to 49s. for delivery in the last three months of the year.

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Rich Pekoe Souchong	4 8 to 5 0	

	GREEN.	s. d. s. d.
Good useful Green	4 4	
Hyson Tea	5 0	
Young Hyson	5 0	
Finest ditto	6 0	
Finest Gunpowder	7 0	

GREAT REDUCTION IN COFFEE.

Good Common Coffee	1 1 to 1 4
Finest Ceylon ditto (recommended)	1 6
Finest Java	1 8
Rich Mountain Jamaica	2 0
Best Cocoa	0 8
Chocolate	0 9

G. T. MANSELL and Co., 2, Bucklersbury, Cheapside,
London. Terms, Cash.

WALTER'S HYDRO-PNEUMATIC

ENEMA SYRINGE.—This newly-invented in-
strument is very much superior to any at present in use,
on account of its simplicity, its great portability, and its
durability. It is in itself reservoir and syringe, less than
half the size of any others that hold the same quantity
of fluid, and gives a continuous jet of any force required,
and free from air. It has been shown to several of the
most eminent physicians and surgeons in London, and
has met with their unqualified approbation. They will
be forwarded into any part of the country on receipt of
a post-office order for a guinea and a half. Manufact-
ured only by the inventor, J. Walters, 16, Moorgate
street, London, whose name is stamped upon them.

EASE AND COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET.

HALL and CO., Wellington street, Strand,

London, sole Patentees of the PANNUS CO-
RIUM, or PROTECTION LEATHER CLOTH BOOTS
and SHOES for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles
have borne the test and received the approbation of all
who have worn them. Such as are troubled with corns,
bunions, gout, chilblains, or tenderness of feet from
any other cause, will find them the softest and most
comfortable ever invented; they never draw the feet or
get hard, qualities which strongly recommend them to
Merchants and Shippers for warm climates, where they
are found easier and more durable than any other kind
of shoes; they resemble the finest leather, and are cleaned
with common blacking.

The material sold by the yard in any quantity.

Also the much improved Patent India Rubber Go-
loshes are light, durable, and perfectly waterproof;
they protect the feet from damp and cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses claim the
attention of all who are exposed to the wet. Ladies'
Cardinal Cloaks, with hoods, from 18s. Gentlemen's
Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, from
21s.; the whole can be carried with convenience in the
pocket.

The Shoes or Goloshes can be fitted by sending a
shoe, and the waterproof dresses by the height of the
figure.

HALL and CO., beg to inform BOOT and SHOE
MAKERS, that they can be supplied with any quantity
of the Pannus Corium, or Leather Cloth, from one yard
and upwards, the cost of which can be sent by post
office order.

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to command
that JOSEPH GILLOTT, of Birmingham, be ap-
pointed Steel Pen Manufacturer in Ordinary to her
Majesty, dated April 13, 1840.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S very superior PA-
TENT and other METALLIC PENS may be had of
all Stationers, Booksellers, and other Dealers in Pens
throughout the United Kingdom.

It is gratifying to the Patentee to acknowledge his ob-
ligations to the Public for the best proof they can give
him of their approbation, in the continually increasing
demand for his pens.

The number of Pens manufactured at the Works
of Joseph GilloTT

From Oct., 1838, to Oct., 1839,	And from Dec., 1840, to Dec., 1841,
was 44,654,702;	was 62,126,928;
or 3,721,225 dozens;	or 5,177,214 dozens;
or 310,102 gross 1 doz.	or 431,437 gross.

CAUTION.—All the genuine Pens are marked in full,
"JOSEPH GILLOTT;" and Venders are desired to note
that his Cards of Pens are made up in Packets of one
dozen each, and have a label outside, with a fac-simile of
his signature. JOSEPH GILLOTT.

At the request of persons extensively engaged in
tuition, J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED
SCHOOL PENS, which are specially adapted to their
use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with
FINE, MEDIUM, and BROAD POINTS.

Wholesale and for Exportation, at the Manufactory,
VICTORIA WORKS, Graham street, Birmingham; and at
37, Gracechurch street, London, under the management
of Mr Fox, from the Manufactory at Birmingham.

**COMPOSITIONS FOR WRITING WITH
STEEL PENS.**

STEPHENS' WRITING FLUIDS.

These Compositions, which have so remarkably ex-
tended the use of Steel Pens, are brought to very great
perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable,
and in every respect preferable to the ordinary ink. In
warm climates they have become essential.

They consist of a Blue Fluid, changing to an intense
Black colour.

Patent unchangeable Blue Fluids, remaining a deep
Blue colour.

A superior Black Ink of the common character, but
more fluid.

A brilliant Carmine Red, for Contrast writing.

A Carbonaceous Record Ink, unchangeable by any
chemical agent.

Bottles at 3d. each, convenient for writing from, are
prepared, which may enable those who may wish to try
either of these articles to do so at a small expense.

Also a new kind of Marking Ink for Linen; and Ink-
holders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and
Dust.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, the Inventor, 54, Stam-
ford Street, Blackfriars Road, London, and sold by Sta-
tioners and Booksellers.

STEPHENS' SELECT STEEL PENS.

The utmost possible care having been bestowed upon
the manufacture of these articles, so as to procure the
highest finish, they can be confidently recommended both
for flexibility and durability.

ST MARY'S CHURCH RATE, DOVER.
THE Christian Public are respectfully informed that, as an expense amounting to £112 13s. 4d. has been incurred by Mr PALFREY, in opposing the illegal Rates in the above Parish, any Contributions towards assisting in defraying these costs will be thankfully received by Mr Palfrey, draper, Cannon street, Dover; and by R. Lee, Esq., Clapham common, Surrey; or at the Office of the *Nonconformist*.

N.B. As Mr P. does not wish to make any gain by the affair, so soon as the sum required is obtained, it will be acknowledged in a future advertisement.

A SALE OF LADIES' WORK
 and other Articles—comprising, with a great variety of such as are useful, many which are rare or foreign, curious or elegant—will take place at the **WESLEYAN CENTENARY HALL and MISSION HOUSE**, Bishopsgate street Within, on Friday and Saturday, the 29th and 30th instant, and on Monday, the 1st of August; the Rooms to be open from Twelve o'clock till Five on the two former days, and from Twelve till Seven on the last. The whole of the clear proceeds will be appropriated towards the extinction of the debt of the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Entrance, One Shilling.

ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 39, Throgmorton street, Bank. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

THOMAS FARNCOMB, Esq., Alderman, Chairman.

WILLIAM LEAF, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

Consulting Actuary.

PROFESSOR HALL, of King's College.

LOW RATES OF PREMIUM.

In addition to the subscribed Capital of £300,000, the Assured have the security of the Company's Income of upwards of £50,000 per annum, yearly increasing, and an accumulating Assurance Fund invested in government and other available securities, of considerably larger amount than the estimated liabilities of the Company.

The Rates of Premium are reduced to the lowest scale compatible with the safety of the Assured and the stability of the Company, thereby, in effect, giving to every policy-holder an immediate and certain Bonus, without risk, in lieu of the deferred and frequently delusive prospect of a periodical division of profits.

ANNUAL PREMIUM TO ASSURE £100.

Age	For Five Years	For Seven Years	Term of Life
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
25	1 0 3	1 0 7	1 15 1
30	1 1 10	1 2 1	1 19 10
45	1 9 7	1 10 9	3 4 7
50	1 16 11	1 19 0	3 19 3
60	3 10 5	3 15 5	6 0 10

In Assurance for advances of money, as security for debts, or as a provision for a family, when the least present outlay is desirable, the varied and comprehensive tables of the Argus Office will be found to be particularly favourable to the Assured.

A Board of Directors, with the Medical Officers, attend Daily. E. BATES, Resident Director.

A liberal Commission to Solicitors and Agents.

LONDON AND COUNTY LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, New Bridge street, Blackfriars, London.

The only Proprietary Association for Life Assurance in which the Policy-holders have a participation in the management and the control of the Funds.

The Board of Directors, composed of Shareholders and Policy-holders; the former of £1000 Stock, the latter of Policies for the Term of Life for £2000.

The holders of Policies for the term of Life for £2000, upon which five years' premium is paid, qualified to be Members of the Board; and of £1000 to be Auditors.

The Auditors are Policy-holders; and persons assured for £500 and upwards qualified to vote at General Meetings.

The TABLES combine all the advantages presented by Societies for mutual guarantee, with the protection and security of Proprietary Companies.

The Assurers upon the participation scale entitled to a **quinquennial bonus of four-fifths of the profits**; the remaining fifth to be added to the guarantee fund.

The premiums on the non-participation scale, the most economical consistent with safety to the Assured.

An increasing table upon a new and highly beneficial plan, for securing debts and loans, requiring less immediate payment for the whole term of life than usually demanded.

Premiums payable yearly, half-yearly, quarterly, or monthly, in one sum, or a limited number of payments.

The Age of the assured admitted in the Policy.

The interests of Assurers upon the lives of others, also admitted in the Policy.

Claims payable in one month after death, and 10 per cent. immediately, upon satisfactory proof thereof, whenever desired.

No claim can be resisted without the report of a committee composed of Shareholders and Policy-holders.

Endowments and Annuities, immediate and deferred, upon highly advantageous terms.

Professional gentlemen and others desirous of becoming Agents to the Association in the Colonies are requested to apply by letter (post paid) addressed to the Secretary, at the house of the Association.

ELASTIC ANKLE BOOTS.

J SPARKS HALL begs respectfully to inform Ladies and Gentlemen that his **PATENT ELASTIC ANKLE BOOTS** require neither lacing, buttoning, or tying; they can be put on or off in a moment, without trouble or loss of time. The annoyance of loose buttoning, buttons coming off, and holes wearing out, suggested the improvement.

J. S. H. has for many years given his attention to the care of the feet, and he has been very successful in giving ease and comfort, solely by making boots and shoes a proper shape, and of the softest and best materials. His new boots are remarkably neat in appearance and make, while they afford an unusual degree of support to the ankles, adapt themselves to the form without pressure, and set well without creases. This invention has been considered so original and desirable that the Patentee has been careful to register it agreeably with the provisions of the Designs Copyright act, 2 Victoria, c. 17, and ladies and gentlemen are informed that J. SPARKES HALL has no other shop in London, except that at 308, Regent street, Langham place, opposite the Polytechnic Institution.

SCOTTISH BOARD FOR BIBLE CIRCULATION.
RESOLUTION adopted by the COMMITTEE of the SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION, LIVERPOOL.

"That with the view of enabling the Scottish Board for Bible circulation to proceed with an enlarged publication of the Pocket Pearl Bible (a specimen of which had been exhibited, and the price of which is to be only 1s. bound in sheep, and 1s. 6d., in embossed roan, gilt edges), it is proposed at once to raise a subscription among the Teachers of the Schools, and the Members of the Congregations generally, the value of which will be returned in stock as soon as the printing is completed." "To that Board," it is added, "we are indebted for the great reduction that has been made in the price of the Sacred Volume, and in its maintenance we have the most influential security against renewed attempts to tax the bread of life, which should be sent forth among the people free from such impost."

EXTRACT FROM A CIRCULAR AT MANCHESTER, &c.

"That, in order to secure the Stereotype Plates as the property of the Board, who can have no interest in the matter, but to provide in continuance for the printing of the Bible, from these Plates, at the cheapest possible rate, it is proposed that the Teachers of Sunday schools, throughout the kingdom, should collect ONE SHILLING each from the friends of their respective Institutions. This small sum is thought sufficient for the purpose, and probably even to lead to a further reduction in the price of the different Editions of the Bible."

The Superintendents and Teachers of the numerous Schools in Birmingham, Rochdale, Macclesfield, and other towns subsequently visited by Dr Thomson, have also unanimously agreed to adopt the preceding Resolutions. And, in addition to this, all the parties referred to have expressed their determination to purchase from the Scottish Board exclusively all Bibles wanted for their Schools and Congregational Depositories, so long as it continues to furnish them at the lowest rate.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

"We whose names are affixed, having duly considered the preceding resolutions and statements, beg to express our most cordial approbation of them; and having also examined specimens of the singularly cheap and very superior editions of the Sacred Scriptures already issued, or in the course of publication, by the Scottish Board, do hereby strongly recommend it to all congregations and Sunday schools, both in the Metropolis and throughout the country, to follow the example so wisely and promptly set by the friends of Bible circulation in the influential towns above mentioned, which will be the best practical condemnation of the Bible monopoly, as well as the most effectual mode of supporting the Scottish Institution, to which England, Ireland, and the Colonies are so deeply indebted.

J. CAMPBELL, D.D. GEORGE PAYNE, LL.D.
 ANDREW REED, D.D. Theological Tutor, Exeter.
 J. LEIFCHILD, D.D. J. YOUNG, M.A.
 R. REDPATH, M.A. JAMES CARLILE.
 INGRAM COBBIN, M.A. W. HAWES COOPER,
 EDWARD STEANE. Resident Tutor of Dublin
 SAMUEL GREEN. Theological Institution."
 JOSEPH ANGUS, M.A.

The Bibles, to some of which particular reference is made above, are the following:—

1. A neat and beautiful Pocket Copy, 24mo, being the cheapest yet published, stereotyped by one of the first printers in the United Kingdom. The price of this Bible will be 1s. bound in sheep, and 1s. 6d. in embossed roan, gilt edges.

2. A School Bible, 12mo, either Scotch or English Edition, to be reduced to 1s. 6d.

3. A small Pocket Testament, 32mo, Scotch or English Edition, price, in embossed roan and marbled edges, 6d., gilt edges 7d.

4. The Royal Quarto Family Bible, with all Brown's Marginal References, and very valuable Notes, in central columns, by the Messrs Patterson, his grandsons; in cloth, 12s. 6d.; 15s. well bound in plain calf; coloured calf, marbled edges, 16s. 6d.; morocco, gilt edges, 23s.; tooled, 25s.; extra, 27s. 6d.

5. "The Analytical Bible," containing Marginal References and Notes, nine beautiful Maps, with an excellent Analysis at the end of each Book, and a connecting History of the Old and New Testament.

6. "The Portable Commentary," having, in addition to the References, Maps, and connecting History, a great number of Critical and Explanatory Notes, in which the results of considerable research are furnished in a few words. This and the preceding are about the size, and have much the appearance of Bagster's Polyglott. They are considered, particularly the latter, as likely to be of great use to Sunday school Teachers, in conducting their Bible Classes. The selling price of the one is 11s. 6d., and the other 13s. 6d. But the Scottish Board, acting on its principle of selling all editions at the lowest rate, will give them at 8s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. respectively, in the very best morocco, with flexible backs, or in embossed roan, gilt, 7s. and 9s.

It will be seen, that all the above are by far the cheapest Bibles yet published, and the Board have besides on sale a great variety of other Editions in various sizes, purchased from the University presses in England, from the Queen's late Printers in Scotland, and other Printers, to be sold at as low prices as any at which they have yet been offered on either side of the Tweed.

In regard to the cheap Pocket Bible (No 1), for which the paper has just been purchased in London, and which will be immediately put to press in Edinburgh, it is important that those wishing any number of copies of it, should give intimation of this, and send their subscriptions for the number wanted without delay, that the extent of the Edition may be regulated accordingly; and it should be remembered that the larger the Edition, the less in proportion will be the cost of each copy.

Orders, with a remittance, may be sent, if within ten days, to 28, Noble street, Falcon square; or after that, by post, to Coldstream, N.B.; and all who send subscriptions soon, whether for Bibles to be forwarded to the full amount, or any sum, however small, towards the purchase of the Plates, will be entitled to receive the Bibles ordered at the low prices mentioned, even although, through a deficiency of Subscriptions to pay for the Plates, it should be found necessary to charge more on some of them to the Public at large.

ADAM THOMSON, D.D.,

Secretary to

"The Scottish Board for Bible Circulation"

London, July 19, 1842.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 1, Princes street, Bank, London. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vic. c. 9.

DIRECTORS.

William Bardgett, Esq. Robert Eglington, Esq.
 Samuel Bevington, Esq. Erasmus R. Forster, Esq.
 Wm. Fechney Black, Esq. Alex. Robert Irvine, Esq.
 John Brightman, Esq. Peter Morrison, Esq.
 George Cohen, Esq. Henry Lewis Smale, Esq.
 Millis Coventry, Esq. Thomas Teed, Esq.
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AUDITORS.

J. B. Bevington, Esq.; J. D. Dow, Esq.; and F. F. Cockerill, Esq.

Medical Officer.—John Clendinning, M.P., F.R.S. Standing Counsel.—The Hon. John Ashley, New square, Lincoln's inn; Mr Sergeant Murphy, M.P., Temple.

Solicitor.—William Bevan, Esq., Old Jewry.

Bankers.—Messrs Drewitt and Fowler, Princes street.

This institution is empowered by a special Act of Parliament, and is so constituted as to afford the benefits of Life Assurance in their fullest extent to policy holders, and to present greater facilities and accommodation than are usually offered by other Companies. The decided superiority of its plan, and its claim to public preference and support have been proved, incontestably, by its extraordinary and unprecedented success. A Board of Directors in attendance daily at two o'clock.

Extract from increasing Rates of Premium, for an Assurance of £100 for whole term of life.

Annual Premium payable during

Age.	First Five Years.	Second Five Years.	Third Five Years.	Fourth Five Years.	Remainder of Life.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 12	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 12	4 4 2	14 6 3	7 3 4	3 4 3
50	2 16 7	9 4 4	5 5 5	6 3 6	13 7

Detailed prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of affecting the Assurance, may be obtained at the office.

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

A liberal Commission allowed to Solicitors and Agents.

AT THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the Promotion of TEMPERANCE, held at Rochdale, July 5, 6, and 7, 1842, Professor GREENBANK, of Manchester, in the Chair, it was unanimously resolved—

"1. That this Conference, feeling deeply interested in the social and religious welfare of our youthful population, view with great concern the employment of vigorous efforts, on the part of many engaged in the traffic in alcoholic liquors, to allure them to the public-house; and would affectionately, but earnestly, solicit the co-operation of all classes of the community, but especially of Christian ministers and Sabbath-school teachers, to guard them from the danger of such associations by inculcating, on all suitable occasions, the principles of true temperance.

"2. That this Conference has observed, with deep anxiety and much pain, that, notwithstanding the zealous efforts of the friends of temperance, the practice of giving intoxicating drinks to Sabbath scholars on festival occasions still obtains to some extent; and feels it to be due to the moral and physical interests of the rising generation to endeavour, by all means, to prevent the further influence of so serious an evil.

"3. That this Conference regrets that the conscientious scruples of those who deprecate the use of intoxicating wine, at the Lord's supper, should not have been sufficiently appreciated by ministers and other influential members of Christian churches; and especially recommends to all Christians a calm and religious investigation of the propriety and necessity of substituting, in the observance of this ordinance, a non-intoxicating wine, in the place of the ordinary wines which are usually administered on such occasions."

A resolution was also passed, inviting "the co-operation of all Christian ministers, favourable to the British Association, by their preaching an annual sermon on behalf of its funds."

Signed, on behalf of the British Association,

JOHN ANDREW, jun., Secretary.

P.S. For a full report of the proceedings of the Conference, see the next number of the *National Temperance Advocate*.

THE WAR IN CHINA.
HOWQUA'S AND MOWQUA'S CELEBRATED TEAS.

THE important consequences likely to ensue to this Country from the warlike operations in the great Tea Mart of the world, have deeply occupied the minds of BROCK-SOPP, How, and Co., who watch the events closely, with a view to do the utmost possible justice to their numerous connexions, as well as to maintain the eminent character which their Teas have acquired throughout Great Britain and Ireland. They have naturally been apprehensive that circumstances might arise to interfere with their supplies of the celebrated Teas which they import, but they have the satisfaction to announce that they have just received from Canton a very large consignment from Howqua, the celebrated Hong Merchant, of the Black Tea so well known as his mixture, as well as of the Mowqua's Small Leaf Gunpowder, which they are enabled to offer without any enhancement of price.

The Howqua's Mixture of Forty rare black Teas is now sold at 6s. per lb., and the Mowqua Small Leaf Gunpowder at 8s. 7½d. per lb.

CAUTION.—The above Teas can only be had genuine in the original Chinese catty, half-catty, and quarter catty packages. A catty contains one pound and a third of a pound, being nearly 23 ounces English weight, and to prevent fraud and adulteration are secured with the seals of Howqua and Mowqua, Merchants, at Canton.

These Teas are so thoroughly established, that to enlarge on their merits is perfectly superfluous.

Sold by their Agents throughout the Country.

BROCK-SOPP, How, and Co., 223 and 224, High street, Borough.

How and Co., 1, Great Newport street, Long acre.

Printed and Published at the Office, at No. 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, near Fetter Lane, in the City of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York Road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 27th of JULY, 1842.